

Hafa Adai!

Red Cross responds to home fire in Kagman II. **PAGE 2**

Federal court chief judge accused of misconduct. **PAGE 4**

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Saipan Tribune

THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

Volume XXXII, Issue No. 192

www.saipantribune.com

TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 27, 2022

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CHRYSTAL MARINO

The CNMI shows its support for war-torn Ukraine as it raises the country's flag, left, at the memorial in San Jose.

Ukraine flag now flies at memorial

By CHRYSTAL MARINO
chrystal_marino@saipantribune.com
CORRESPONDENT

With war going on in Northwest Europe, the CNMI has also raised a symbol to show their support for those who suf-

fer in Ukraine by changing the once featured Russian flag in the flag memorial across Atkins Kroll in San Jose, to a Ukrainian flag.

Saipan Tribune reached out to the Saipan Mayor's Office, who maintains the memorial and was solely responsible for

the flag's change, and officials there said the change had been made after Rep. Cristina

See UKRAINE on Page 4

Governor to talk about possible partial shutdown

» **Speaker Villagomez calls for an emergency session to tackle budget bill**
» **Senate President Hofschneider also calls for a press conference to discuss FY '23 budget**

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres and Senate President Jude U. Hofschneider (R-Tinian) will hold separate press conferences today, Tuesday, to talk about the budget bill for the government's operations in Fiscal Year 2023.

This developed as House of Representatives Speaker Edmund S. Villagomez (Ind-

See TORRES on Page 4

36 new citizens naturalized

By KIMBERLY B. ESMORES
kimberly_esmores@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The District Court for the NMI has sworn in 36 new citizens through a court special session naturalization ceremony yesterday.

Yesterday, District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona administered the oath of allegiance to 36 newly naturalized United States citizens through a court special session naturaliza-

See CITIZENS on Page 4

KIMBERLY B. ESMORES

The District Court for the NMI swore in 36 new United States citizens through a court special session naturalization ceremony at the federal courthouse located in Gualo Rai yesterday.



AFTER LEAVE REQUEST DENIED

Stanley Iakopo resigns

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Citing that Gov. Ralph DLG Torres denied his request for advance military leave, which only showed that the governor does not support veterans, Stanley T. Iakopo tendered his resignation letter yesterday as executive officer of the CNMI Office of Veterans Affairs.



Iakopo

In response to *Saipan Tribune's* request for comments, Torres said his administration has always supported the veterans through direct or indirect

services.

"Our commitment to veterans."
See IAKOPO on Page 4

INSIDE



LOCAL

Docomo Pacific's next Tech Talks webinar is entitled "Visibility, Security, and Control. Take Charge of Your Network."

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LOCAL

The Marianas Visitors Authority touted diving opportunities in The Marianas at Asia Dive Expo.

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OVERDRIVE

Lexus has gone a step further, admonishing you to sit up straight on the all-new 2023 Lexus RX, like a nagging mother.

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SCAN ME WITH A COMPATIBLE QR READER TO KEEP UPDATED ON ALL THE LATEST NEWS.



GOT A NEWS TIP?

TEL: 235-6397 / 235-2440 FAX: 235-3740 EMAIL: editor@saipantribune.com

Local

Red Cross responds to home fire in Kagman II

American Red Cross-NMI Chapter volunteer Christie Sablan Keptot responded to a single-family home fire in Kagman II late Sunday afternoon.

The Red Cross Disaster Action Team received a call of a structure fire in Kagman II at around 2:30pm last Sunday afternoon. After assessing the incident, Red Cross casework-

ers were able to help the family members who were displaced from their home due to the fire.

The American Red Cross was able to provide clients

with immediate assistance for food, clothing, and shelter while they begin their road to recovery.

SIMPLE STEPS TO SAVE LIVES

The Red Cross is calling on everyone to take two simple steps that can save lives: practice fire drills at home and check existing smoke alarms.

There are several things families and individuals can do to increase their chances of surviving a fire:

■ If someone doesn't have smoke alarms, install them. At a minimum, put one on every level of the home, inside bedrooms and outside sleeping areas. Local building codes vary and there may be additional requirements where someone lives.

■ If someone does have alarms, test them today. If they don't work, replace them.

■ Make sure that everyone in the family knows how to get out of every room and how to get out of the home in less than

two minutes.

■ Practice the fire escape plan. What's the household's escape time?

WHAT PEOPLE CAN DO

People can visit redcross.org/homefires to find out more about how to protect themselves and their loved homes from fire. They can become a Red Cross volunteer by contacting the local chapter office at 670-234-3459 or by visiting our website at www.redcross.org/nmi. (PR)



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The American Red Cross-NMI Chapter provided victims of last Sunday's single-family home fire in Kagman II with immediate assistance for food, clothing, and shelter.

Saipan senatorial candidates invited to Marianas Agupa Forum

Marianas Agupa Radio Talk Show is pleased to invite all of the Third Senatorial District candidates to the Marianas Agupa Forum on Oct. 1, 2022 at 9am ChST via virtual appearance. Direct Link will be sent out at least a day before the forum.

On Nov. 8, 2022, the CNMI people will be making their decision on who to vote based on their policy stance and their proposed legislation if elected and it's reason the Marianas Agupa Radio Talk Show will be hosting the forum.

The language will be either in Chamorro or English and the order to respond to a question shall be by the candidates' number on the ballot.

Each of the candidates shall be given up to three minutes for an opening statement.

All the candidates will be asked the following general questions regarding:

1. Article 11 and Article 12 Issues
2. Northern Marianas Descent
3. Government's financial resources and

the casino

4. Retirees

5. Youth and *man'amko*

6. Two questions will be asked by a reporter from *Marianas Variety*.

Note: Questions from the public may be open if time permits.

All the candidates shall be given up to three minutes for a closing statement.

A rebuttal on this Q and A segment is not allowed.

The forum will be moderated by Marianas Agupa Radio Talk Show host Glenn H. Manglona.

The show starts at 9am and will be until 11am on Magic 100.3 FM. It will also be streamed via <https://tunein.com/radio/KWAW-FM-1003-s43718/> and Marianas Agupa YouTube at Channel AND Marianas Agupa Facebook. (PR)



CNMI, STRONG!

OUR COMMUNITY, COMMITMENT, AND RESILIENCY MUST CONTINUE.



Control the spread of COVID

Nurture our bodies and minds

Maintain physical and mental fitness goals

Improve our overall health!

One step, one mile, one minute at a time,
for ourselves, our family, our neighbors, our home...



AS OF AUGUST 22, 2022

12 CASES PER DAY | AVERAGE CASES INCREASED BY **1267%** (FROM 2 WEEKS AGO) | DEATH DECREASED BY **30%**

SINCE THE BEGINNING OF PANDEMIC:

1 OF 4 RESIDENTS HAVE BEEN INFECTED | **12,953** TOTAL REPORTED CASES | **39** DEATHS

NMC swears in new student officers



CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS

The eight student officials of the Associated Students of Northern Marianas College were sworn in Friday, Sept. 23, at the Pacific Islands Club. Standing in the top row, from left, are NMC Office of Student Activities and Leadership Program manager Alexis Cabrera-Manglona, NMC OSAL Program coordinator Maia Pangelinan, ASNMC secretary Daryll De Luna, ASNMC senator Bonnie Gio Sagana, ASNMC Tinian representative Henry Hofschneider San Nicolas Jr., ASNMC vice president Jefferson Cunanan, and NMC president Dr. Galvin Deleon Guerrero. Seated in the bottom row, from left, are ASNMC senators Jami Starling and Eloise Lopez, ASNMC president Anushi Joshi, and ASNMC treasurer Jenara Bai.

Eight student officials of the Associated Students of Northern Marianas College or ASNMC were sworn in Friday, Sept. 23, at the Pacific Islands Club.

They are Anushi Joshi, president; Jefferson Cunanan, vice president; Jenara Bai, treasurer; Daryll De Luna, secretary; Henry Hofschneider San Nicolas Jr., Tinian representative; Bonnie Gio Sagana, Eloise Lopez, and Jami Starling, senators.

In her inaugural address, ASNMC president Anushi Joshi said she will be the voice

of her fellow college students.

"I am here, not only for the position, but also to grab the opportunity to create new friendships," Joshi said. "And like a good friend, I promise to be transparent and honest about the challenges that our school may face. I will do my best to communicate with you at all times possible and keep you informed."

Joshi asks her fellow students to come together this academic year to help accomplish ASNMC's goals.

"As your newly elected president, I promise to take

into account each of your interests and your voices on the

many issues we will face during the upcoming year," Joshi



Northern Marianas College's new student officers take their oath of office during their investiture ceremony.



Northern Marianas College's new student officers light the Associated Students of NMC leadership candle during their investiture ceremony on Friday, Sept. 23, at the Pacific Islands Club. The lighting of the candle is done to symbolize the unity and trust bestowed upon the new officers.

said. "I'm looking forward to being a part of the team and the community, emphasizing student success and our commitment to elevate higher education on our island."

During the investiture ceremony, the officers unveiled their plans for 2022-2023 academic year. ASNMC aims to train student club officers in leadership skills, increase outreach efforts to high school students in the CNMI, celebrate the different cultures at NMC and promote diversity.

ASNMC also hopes to

improve student leadership, increase NMC enrollment, and showcase its diverse student body.

ASNMC is a student-driven governance body. Its executive cabinet is composed of students elected at large by the student body to serve a one-year term in office.

This year's student government election took place from Aug. 29 to 31, 2022.

For more information about ASNMC, visit marianas.edu or email asnmc@marianas.edu. (PR)

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In cooperation with **AOW**

Saipan Operations

Accounting and Administrative Assistant
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NORTHERN MARIANAS TECHNICAL INSTITUTE

P.O. Box 504880 Saipan MP 96950
Tel. No.: (670) 235-6684

**Northern Marianas Technical Institute
Board of Trustees Regular Meeting
Thursday, September 29, 2022
2:00 p.m., NMTech Lower Base Campus**

AGENDA

- I. Call to Order
- II. Adoption of Agenda
- III. Adoption of Meeting Minutes
 - a. July 18, 2022
- IV. Public Comments
- V. Unfinished Business
 - a. Finalize 2021-2022 CEO Evaluation
 - b. Emergency Procurement Regulations
 - c. Draft NMTech By-Laws
- VI. New Business
 - a. Tinian BoT Vacancy
 - b. EDA Grant
- VII. Committee Updates
- VIII. Executive Session
- IX. Announcements
- X. Adjournment



Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
Commonwealth Office of Transit Authority
Office of the Governor
"Driving You Forward"

PUBLIC NOTICE

Please be advised that the Commonwealth Office of Transit Authority (COTA) relocated to the Administrative Building and Maintenance Facility located in Lowerbase, Saipan across the Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR) Office. In addition, COTA's One-Call/One-Click Transportation Resource Center's contact number has changed to (670) 236-2682 effective August 25, 2022.

For additional information please contact COTA's Administrative Office at (670) 664-2682. Thank you.

Sincerely,
/s/ **Amalia M. Magofna**
**Acting Special Assistant
for Public Transportation**



2nd Floor Rm. 216, Marianas Business Plaza, Susupe, Caller Box 10007, Saipan, MP 96950
Phone: (670) 664-2682; Fax: (670) 664-2692; Email: alfredac.maratita@gov.mp



JOB ANNOUNCEMENT

SALES ACCOUNT MANAGER

Responsible for Customer Accounts on
Saipan / Tinian / Rota

Must have excellent verbal and written communication skills
2-3 years direct sales experience
PC literacy is required
College is beneficial

EMAIL RESUME TO:

pamela.quinata@xerox.com &
julie.artero@xerox.com

For more info, call (670)-234-5291

Federal court chief judge accused of misconduct

By **KIMBERLY B. ESMORES**
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REPORTER

District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona has been accused of judicial misconduct after dismissing multiple lawsuits filed by CNMI persona non grata Zaji O. Zajradhara.

Last week, Zajradhara filed a motion for recusal with the federal court against Manglona accusing her of judicial misconduct for the manner of which she handled the lawsuits he had previously filed against PC Bargain, and Commonwealth COVID-19 Emergency Rental Assistance Program Admin-

istrator Ephiphaniao "Epi" Cabrera, and CCERA employee Dana Calvo.

In addition to filing a motion of recusal against Manglona, Zajradhara has filed an official judicial misconduct complaint against Judge Manglona with the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit.

Now that he has refiled his lawsuits with the district court, Zajradhara wants Manglona to recuse herself from hearing his complaints.

In addition, Zajradhara has requested the federal court to give

him an additional 30 days to amend his complaint and/or to locate counsel to represent him or assist him with amending his complaint against PC Bargain, Cabrera and Calvo which the court has since granted.

Manglona directed the plaintiff to file his amended complaint against Cabrera and Calvo by Oct. 19, and against PC Bargain by Oct. 25.

Zajradhara claims that Manglona has deliberately violated his personal liberties and/or has wantonly refused to provide him due process and equal protection,

or has behaved in a manner inconsistent with that which is needed for full, fair, impartial hearings.

"Judge Manglona deliberately violated [my] Fourteenth Amendment rights of due process and access in a timely manner to the court while at the same time, allows all manner of non-American citizens, Russians in the CNMI illegally, Chinese, Filipinos who are illegally within the borders of America to have direct access to the court," he claims.

"This judge makes a mockery of the constitution and the laws, and penalties thereof by being an advocate (sic) and activist judge for non-American citizens' continued

and ongoing violations of America's immigration laws," Zajradhara added.

Lastly, claims that Manglona is aware of "rampant violations of the CW-1 visa policies" yet she allegedly does nothing to issue penalties and or sentences in order to deter further violations of America's immigration/employment laws.

"The matters before her are within both immigration and employment, and the complainant does not believe due to this judge's past violations of the complainant's constitutional rights that she could be a fair, unbiased and impartial jurist in these matters before her," he said.

IAKOPO

From Page 1

erans is unwavering. I thank Mr. Iakopo for his service to our country and Commonwealth," said Torres in a statement.

The governor also told *Saipan Tribune* that he accepted Iakopo's resignation and that they will work on who will be appointed for the position.

In his letter addressed to Torres, Iakopo said it has become apparent to him that he and the governor no longer share the same values and principles with respect to good order and discipline.

"Therefore, I cannot in good conscience align myself with a governor who does not support veterans," said the executive officer in the letter, a copy of which was obtained by *Saipan Tribune*.

He said he attempted to meet with Torres over the past four years, but the governor denied all of his requests.

Iakopo said, in fact, recently he tried to meet with the governor to advise him about upcoming visits

from the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, but he refused to meet with him.

He said he recently submitted a request for advance military leave and that once again Torres denied it.

Iakopo said he took an oath to protect freedom and defend the constitution, but when Torres denied his advance military leave request, it showed him that the governor does not support veterans, especially those called to duty.

The executive officer said it has been a privilege and honor to serve and advocate for the CNMI veterans and their families.

Iakopo said he has enjoyed working with the Veterans Health Administration, the Veterans Benefits Administration, and the National Cemetery Administration to ensure that the CNMI veterans and their families receive what they deserve.

Iakopo said his resignation will be effective immediately.

In May 2019, Torres appointed Iakopo for the executive director's position.

Iakopo has served in the U.S. Air Force for the last 18 years in several

capacities. He is a former executive director for the Civil Military Liaison Office and a former environmental health officer and procurement and supply director for the Commonwealth Healthcare Corp.

Torres said his administration advocated for equality and inclusion where there were gaps, and that they've worked to build foundations upon which CNMI's veterans may prosper as civilians.

Torres said aside from benefits that veterans have earned, it has been a duty of the administration to provide adequate healthcare services.

"I have taken this responsibility seriously," he said.

The governor said in fact issues specific to physical, mental, and emotional health were brought up in a meeting with the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs Deputy Secretary Donald Remy and other USVA officials.

Last month, USVA Deputy Secretary Donald M. Remy commended Torres administration's outreach efforts, which included town hall meetings on Saipan, Tinian, and Rota.

Plan Act funds, for government operations in FY 2023.

Citing the House majority's "negligent and inappropriate actions" they have done in the budget bill, Torres recently expressed doubt whether the Legislature will be able to pass by the deadline a balanced budget legislation.

With the backing of their legal counsel Joe Bermudes' opinion, stating, among other things, that it is only the governor who has the authority to allocate or expend ARPA funds, the Senate on Friday unanimously passed their version of a budget bill.

ment shutdown.

Hunter said the press briefing will be held in the governor's office's conference room at 10:30am.

Hofschneider yesterday also scheduled a press conference in the Senate chamber for today at 10am to discuss the FY 2023 budget.

Torres has until Oct. 1, 2022 to enact a new budget bill into law or risk a partial shutdown of government operations in an election year.

Last Aug. 27, the House passed a budget bill to appropriate \$109.7 million out of \$150.4 million in total budgetary resources, and \$52.6 million from the American Rescue

memorial site in San Jose."

She added that several CNMI residents and constituents expressed their concern in the situation as well.

She added "I subsequently learned that other local governments around the nation have raised the Ukrainian flag as a gesture of solidarity and support for the suffering people of Ukraine. I also learned that we have a small community of Ukrainians living in the Marianas. My office reached out to the Saipan Mayor's Office, which

maintains the memorial, and asked if the mayor would consider removing the flag of Russia and raising the flag of Ukraine in its place."

Sablan also offered to provide the Ukrainian flag that was to be featured "I truly appreciate that Mayor Apatang readily said yes." She said "We ordered the Ukrainian flag and delivered it to the mayor's office immediately after it arrived. The mayor's office raised the flag of Ukraine at the memorial site shortly after."



Manglona

CITIZENS

From Page 1

tion ceremony at the CNMI federal courthouse.

The court held a two-part session with the first batch of 18 individuals naturalized in the morning, and the following 18 in the afternoon.

The morning session saw the naturalization of Carmelito Olalia Asuncion, Flordeliza Dela Cerna Bona, Ruth Saludes Borja, Mukesh Murlidhar Devjani, Neha Mukesh Devjani, Mildred Dorado Ebuena, Raul Rico Ebuena, Rowena Ibarra Jocson, Thiti-porn Prachuabsook Kubota, Sinruamsap Ieodonkhoi Lisua, Majie De Arabia Maalihan, Lysa Advincula Maratita, Maydeline Vidal Marr, John Michael Alvarado Mendoza, Jonathan Delos Santos Navarro, Mary Ann Florendo Sablan, Phayong Wanphen Santos, and Yin Chunyan.

Meanwhile the afternoon session included naturalized citizens Gina Hernandez Aguilar, Arthur Inandan Arada, Jocelyn Alcantara Arada, Evangelyn Hernandez Arizala, Marjorie Pascua Cabay, Jessie Eleria Conde, Marciana Foronda Cruz, Vivian Villavicencio Hofschneider, Dulal Howlader, You Jin Jun, Jong Hwan Juan Pedro Kim, Pearl Lauritzen, Marie Afreel Visaya Leightley, Maybelle Cruz Palma, Roberto Supena Palma, Angelito Aquino Romero, Jeeraphong Thoensaket, and Bonifacio Cantero Jr. Villegas.

During one of the sessions, the naturalized citizens heard a heartwarming speech from keynote speaker Catherine Attao-Toves, Tan Holdings vice president for Corporate Affairs/ Human Resources, on the importance of volunteering and giving back to the country they are now citizens of.

Attao-Toves told the new citizens that although there are many privileges of becoming a U.S. citizen, with it comes great responsibility.

"Although we live in an imperfect world, there are many privileges and freedoms that we, as U.S. citizens, enjoy. We have the right to express ourselves, worship as we wish, vote, and pursue 'life, liberty, and happiness.' With these privileges and freedoms, also comes great responsibility. To name a few, as U.S. citizens, we are responsible to support and defend the consti-

tution, stay informed on issues affecting our community, participate in democratic process, respect the rights, beliefs, and opinions of others, and participate in our local community," she stated.

Of all these responsibilities, Attao-Toves focused on one, participating in the local community.

While speaking on this, Attao-Toves shared her journey of battling what was possibly cancer which led her to her life-long love for volunteerism in the local community.

"I have always been ambitious. However, as I started my career, I also started looking for ways to volunteer. My first opportunity to volunteer was with the Marianas March Against Cancer, where a group of us organized this community fundraiser and all proceeds would be donated to the Commonwealth Cancer Association. This was very important to me—as years prior, I was told that I might have cancer. I can recall this, like it was yesterday. After the surgery, I was very lucky to be informed that the cyst on my ovaries was not cancerous. It was through these 15 years of volunteering that built the spirit of volunteerism in my heart," she said.

She shared that through her position at Tan Holdings, she was able to further help give back to the community through volunteer work by helping establish the Field of Heroes annual event that recognizes those who have served the nation and their community.

"In Tan Holdings, we are very proud to say, 'we will never forget.' We will always remain so grateful to our community heroes, for their willingness to 'serve,' we will never forget the actions or the dangers they endure. Every September, you will see our garden of red, white and blue, where we will honor our community heroes for their courage (red), pure intentions (white) and remaining vigilant (blue) for our community. So, as you can see the 'freedom' we endure are not 'free.' Celebrate your new responsibilities and privileges with a grateful heart for our community heroes. Find ways to volunteer and stay involved in your community, as the most valuable thing one can offer another is giving your 'time.'" Attao-Toves said.

UKRAINE

From Page 1

Sablan (D-Saipan) had brought it to their attention, and requested for the change.

When speaking to Sablan, she stated "Shortly after Russia invaded Ukraine, and after the United States became involved in sending military and humanitarian aid to the people of Ukraine, I became aware that the Russian flag was still flying at the

Docomo Pacific's next Tech Talks webinar series on Sept. 30

TAMUNING, Guam—Docomo Pacific will host its next Tech Talks webinar titled “Visibility, Security, and Control. Take Charge of Your Network” on Friday, Sept. 30.

This free webinar will focus on Managed Wi-Fi and how businesses can take charge of their network by unlocking features for increased visibility, reliable security, and better ability to control their network. To share critical information on this business solution, Docomo Pacific partnered with Plume to bring this webinar to life featuring their

product management and customer solutions experts.

The topics include:

- Managed Wi-Fi explained
- The digital transformation movement to future proof your business
- Key benefits of Managed Wi-Fi including business insights, analytics, and success
- Ongoing industry trends
- The future of Wi-Fi network in the next 10 years

Featured speakers include Seth Kaplan, senior director of Product Management, Plume; Adam Thompson, principal customer solutions engineer,

Plume; Russell Ocampo, Enterprise Marketing senior manager, Docomo Pacific; Clea San Nicolas, and Segment Marketing manager, Docomo Pacific.

Kaplan is a senior director of Product Management at Plume Design, Inc. He has been with Plume for almost two years bringing innovative product solutions to businesses globally. Before Plume, Kaplan worked at Sonos, Inc. as director of Business Development-Strategic Initiative, director of Global Business Planning, and senior manager FP&A: Marketing & Director-

to-Consumer. His experience remains surrounded by technology and manufacturing, building better business processes for strategic development and economic growth.

Thompson is a principal customer solutions engineer with Plume. He has been with Plume since 2020 and has held various roles within the engineering organization. Thompson supports the pre-sales opportunities for direct sales in North America and Channel Partners worldwide. Before joining Plume, he held positions at Charter Commu-

nications, Verizon Communications, and XO Communications. When not at Plume, he enjoys time with his family, skiing, riding motorcycles, and golfing in Colorado.

The Docomo Pacific Business Tech Talks webinar series is available to everyone and is free of charge. The next event will occur on Friday, Sept. 30, 2022, from 9am to 10am CHST via Docomo Pacific's MAX Meeting platform.

To register, please visit: <https://info.docomopacific.com/techtalks>.

Docomo Pacific is a wholly

owned subsidiary of NTT Docomo, Japan's leading mobile operator. Headquartered in Tamuning, Guam, Docomo Pacific is the largest provider of personal, residential, enterprise connectivity and entertainment services in Guam and the Northern Mariana Islands.

Docomo Pacific is the six-time winner of Best of The Pacific. Docomo Pacific is dedicated to bringing you and your family closer to the things that matter most. Get to know more about what makes us “Better Together” www.docomopacific.com. **(PR)**

Chamber meeting on Oct. 5 to discuss BOOST program

Saipan Chamber of Commerce is excited to announce the hosting of their monthly general membership meeting that will be on Wednesday, Oct. 5, 2022, from 11:30am to 1pm at the Queens Hall, Kensington Hotel.

The Chamber is excited to announce that they will be presenting the Board of Directors nominations, election dates, how many votes are allowed per membership, and many more.

In addition, guest speakers will be in to discuss the launching of the 2022 Toys for Tots Campaign and how you are able to be a partner to bring

joy to a child this Christmas.

Lastly, the Chamber will have a special presentation in collaboration with the Office of the Governor, administrator of grants John Arroyo, and the SBDC network on Saipan director Nadine Deleon Guerrero, to discuss further about the BOOST Program and the extended deadline.

Lunch will be served at 11:30am and the meeting will begin promptly at 12 noon. The luncheon fee is \$25/Chamber member and \$35/non-member. The Chamber is accepting reservations, to reserve or for more information, please contact the Chamber

office at (670) 234-7150 or email coordinator2@saipan-chamber.com.

The Chamber is a non-profit organization whose mission is to empower our enterprises as a resource, advocate, and connector for Saipan's private sector. Its vision is to create an island where businesses, family, and community succeed as one.

For more information or to learn how to become a Chamber Member, visit online at www.saipanchamber.com, call 234-7150, or visit the 4th Floor of the Marianas Business Plaza (Room 413). **(PR)**

ARC-CNMI Chapter, US Labor at SHRM meeting

The Society for Human Resource Management will host a general membership meeting at Pacific Islands Club Saipan's Charley's Cabaret on Friday, Sept. 30, 2022, starting at 12pm. Doors will open at 11:30am.

Instructors from the American Red Cross-NMI Chapter, led by instructor trainer Larry Lee of Western Pacific Training Solutions, LLC and Disaster Action Team Program lead Richard Defan, will conduct Hands-Only CPR Training.

In addition, the ARC-CNMI Chapter will also provide an overview of the “Ready Rating” Program and how your organization can be better prepared for di-

sasters and other emergencies.

United States Department of Labor's Feng “Daniel” Wang and U.S. DOL Wage and Hour investigator Dean Tenorio will also discuss a summary of Wage and Hour topics that include:

- Executive Order 14026 re: \$15/hour for workers on Covered Federal Contracts (discuss CNMI applicability)
- 29 CFR 541 regarding Exempt and Nonexempt employees
- ◆ 541 Exemption Criteria Overview
- Discuss the concept of paying “Overtime” wages to Exempt employees
- ◆ Example: Paying 1.0/hr for hours worked beyond 40

hour work week


- Highlight some changes to Tips Regulations

The SHRM general membership meeting will include lunch and it costs \$30 for members and \$35 for non-members.

SHRM is the world's largest association devoted to human resource management. The society serves the needs of HR professionals and advances the interests of the HR profession.


Founded in 1948, SHRM has more than 250,000 members in over 140 countries, and more than 575 affiliated chapters.

The CNMI Chapter is affiliated with the national organization. **(PR)**



COMMONWEALTH UTILITIES CORPORATION

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



REQUEST FOR STATEMENT OF QUALIFICATIONS

CUC-RSQ-22-037

PROGRAM MANAGEMENT SERVICES FOR CUC'S SUSTAINABLE WATER INFRASTRUCTURE MANAGEMENT STRATEGY (SWIMS) PROGRAM

The Office of the Executive Director for the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting Statement of Qualifications from qualified firms for Program Management Services for CUC's Sustainable Water Infrastructure Management Strategy (SWIMS) program. This is a comprehensive planning, investigation, design, construction and operations approach to manage Non-Revenue Water and the delivery of safe and affordable drinking water to the island of Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The proposed program is funded by a grant from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). All work is subject to grantors approval.

The RSQ package will be provided via email to the registered email ID upon completion of registration at the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays.

One (1) original and Five (5) copies of the RSQ must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked “CUC-RSQ 22-037, Request for Statement of Qualifications for Program Management Services for the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation's Sustainable Water Infrastructure Management Strategy (SWIMS) Program” to CUC Procurement & Supply Division, 3rd Floor, Room No.3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Dandan, Saipan, MP 96950, **no later than 10:00 a.m. (ChST) on October 11, 2022**. Statements of Qualifications mailed via postal or courier service must be received or postmarked on or before due date and time. Late submissions and conditional proposals will not be considered.

A&E firms are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility for any act of omission on the part of the A&E firms due to a lack of information or understanding of the RSQ requirements in the course of the Consultant's preparation of an SOQ under the contract.

Discussions may be conducted with responsible/qualified A&E firms who submit proposals determined to be reasonably susceptible to being selected for the award for the purpose of clarification and to ensure full understanding of and responsiveness to solicitation requirements. A&E firms shall be accorded fair and equal during discussions; there will be no disclosure of any information derived from proposals submitted by competing offerors.

This RSQ does not commit CUC to the award of a contract or contracts nor to pay any cost incurred in the preparation and submission of statements of qualifications in anticipation of a contract. This request and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC procurement regulations. The contractor shall be required to comply with all CNMI and applicable federal regulations.

Questions or requests for clarification will be entertained only from pre-registered prospective proposers and must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 a.m. (ChST) on September 20, 2022**, to Manny B. Sablan, CUC Purchasing Administrator via email address manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to Larry Manacop, CUC Acting Water/Wastewater Chief Engineer via email address larry.manacop@cucgov.org, and Christie Sablan, Administrative Technician Senior via email address, christie.sablan@cucgov.org.


CUC reserves the right to reject any or all Statement of Qualifications for any reason and to waive any defects in said RSQ, if in its sole opinion, to do so would be in the best interest of CUC. All Statement of Qualifications shall become the property of CUC.

GARY P. CAMACHO

Executive Director


MANNY B. SABLAN

Purchasing Administrator



Commonwealth Utilities Corporation

P. O. Box 501220, Third Floor, Joeten Dandan Building, Saipan, MP 96950
Tel: (670) 664-4282 • Fax: (670) 235-5131



JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

RE-ANNOUNCEMENT

JVA No. 22 – 093

Opening Date: September 23, 2022
Closing Date: October 06, 2022

POSITION TITLE:	Trades Assistant: Electrician
DEPARTMENT:	Power Generation
LOCATION:	Saipan, Northern Marianas Islands, USA
ANNUAL SALARY:	\$16,742.00 to \$22,602.00 per annum, Non- Exempt
CONTRACT:	Not Contracted
POSITION(S):	One (1)

The incumbent will be under the overall supervision of the Power Generation Manager or his/her designee. This class specification represents only the core areas of responsibilities; specific position assignments will vary depending on the needs of Power Generation.

Duties:

- Assists with the safe and efficient operation of all plant equipment and machinery including, but not limited to, incinerators, generators, operation of valves, plant production operations, and unloading of diesel fuel tank trucks to storage tanks.
- Follows all safety and operations procedures during operations and maintenance activities
- Monitoring Plant systems as assigned
- Prepares job site for work including gathering and setting up materials and supplies, and setting work safety barriers for protection
- Gathers, cleans and returns equipment, materials and supplies used
- Cleans and maintains work site after project or repair work is complete
- Monitors equipment
- Takes readings and collects data; documents equipment readings
- Prepares and submits data and work reports
- Performs inventory spot checks to ensure adequate materials and supplies are available for daily work activities
- Assisting with equipment inspections, cleaning, corrosion control, and painting
- Operating incinerators
- Oil and water separator pump, servicing and preparing oil filters
- Maintaining grounds, trimming trees and removing debris and housekeeping
- Performs other duties of a similar nature and level as assigned.

Minimum Requirements:

Education: High School Diploma or General Education Diploma (GED) or Adult Basic Education (ABE) Program Adult School Diploma (AS) and 4 years of experience related to area of assignment. Training and knowledge in operations repair, and maintenance of power generating and/or industrial equipment/facilities desired but not required.

Knowledge of: Customer service principles; Basic mathematical concepts; Safety procedures and safe work practices; Modern office technology.

Skills in: Operating heavy and light equipment machinery, hand and power tools required of assigned area; Adhering to safety procedures and safe work practices; Prioritizing tasks and managing time for efficiency; Identifying issues and solving problems; Providing attention to detail; Taking equipment readings and recording data; Maintaining activity logs and reports; Utilizing a computer and relevant software applications; Utilizing communication and interpersonal skills as applied to interaction with coworkers, supervisor, the general public, and others to sufficiently exchange or convey information and to receive work direction. Must Able to lift and carry heavy objects of 45 pounds and over, climb ladders, reach above the shoulders, stand, sit, crawl and kneel for prolonged periods and perform repeated bending. Recognize color codes, operate cranes and motor vehicles. Work inside around machinery in operation; in varying degree of temperature in tight or cramped (confined) work spaces, at heights, on ladders or scaffolds, and on slippery or uneven walking surfaces in close proximity to high and low voltage circuits and climbs stairs frequently. Occasionally use solvents, de-greasing agents, or other chemical agents, and be assigned to protracted or irregular hours of work. Work in environments exposed to dust, oil, grease, constant or excessive noise, vibration, and smoke and gas fumes. Work closely with others and/or alone depending on assigned daily activities. Must be available to work a 24/7 rotation shift to include weekends and holidays, may be on call for emergency response.

All applicants may be tested and all applicants are subject to pre-employment drug test.

How to Apply: Submit a completed CUC Employment Application, resume, and applicable supporting documents to the CUC Human Resources office located on the 3rd Floor of the Joeten Dandan Building on Saipan, Monday through Friday 7:30 am – 4:30 pm (Except Legal Holidays). Applicants on the island of Tinian and Rota may submit their documents to their respective CUC Administration office. Application, resume and supporting documents can also be e-mailed to: employment.applications@cucgov.org

P. O. Box 501220, Third Floor, Joeten Dandan Building, Saipan, MP 96950
Tel: (670) 664-4282 • Fax: (670) 235-5131
CUC is an Equal Opportunity Provider and Employer.

MVA joins Asia Dive Expo 2022

The Marianas Visitors Authority touted diving opportunities in The Marianas at Asia Dive Expo (ADEX) 2022 on Sept. 16-18, 2022, in Singapore.

ADEX is the largest and longest-running dive consumer and trade show in Asia and is a must-attend event for dive enthusiasts. The MVA joined 127 other exhibitors, including fellow Micronesia destination Palau, in meeting consumers, trade reps, and media during the event which was held at Sands Expo and Convention Center in Singapore. This year's expo attracted nearly 29,000 attendees, including 17,000 consumers, about 10,000 diving trade representatives, and other guests.

"As diving is one the strongest attractions The Marianas has to offer to a niche market, ADEX is the perfect opportunity to get the word out to anyone interested or involved in the world of diving," said MVA



CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS
Axe Murderer Tours master dive instructor Jay Wolfe, left, shares information on The Marianas at Asia Dive Expo (ADEX) 2022 on Sept. 16-18, 2022, in Singapore. ADEX is the largest and longest-running diving consumer and trade show in Asia.

deputy managing director Judy Torres. "In talking with attendees, we see there is a strong desire to travel, especially since restrictions are being eased. Most of our booth visitors were looking for new diving destinations

and experiences."

At its promotional booth, the MVA shared general information about the destination; details on air service to The Marianas; various diving experiences available in Saipan, Tinian, Rota, and



Marianas Visitors Authority Taiwan PR & Marketing manager Steven Cheng shares information about The Marianas at Asia Dive Expo (ADEX) 2022 on Sept. 16-18, 2022, in Singapore. ADEX is the largest and longest-running diving consumer and trade show in Asia.

the Northern Islands; and other tourist attractions in the islands. The Marianas 30 Treasures brochure was made available digitally, and participants also received

Marianas-branded giveaways for taking a survey. The MVA was joined by Axe Murderer Tours owner and master dive instructor Jay Wolfe in promoting The

Marianas at the event.

The tropical Marianas offer a wide selection of shore, boat, night, wrecks, cavern, and marine life dives with high underwater visibility. **(PR)**



Marianas Visitors Authority deputy managing director Judy Torres, right, leads the MVA delegation at Asia Dive Expo (ADEX) 2022 on Sept. 16-18, 2022, in Singapore. From left, MVA Taiwan PR & Marketing manager Steven Cheng, Axe Murderer Tours master dive instructor Jay Wolfe, former Marianas Ocean Tourism ambassador Yorko Summer, actress and PADI ambassador Kirana Larasati, MVA Product Development manager Tiana Reyes, and Torres.



Marianas Visitors Authority Taiwan PR & Marketing manager Steven Cheng shares information on The Marianas at Asia Dive Expo (ADEX) 2022 on Sept. 16-18, 2022, in Singapore. ADEX is the largest and longest-running diving consumer and trade show in Asia.

Community First only Guam institution to receive capital investment from US Treasury

HAGATNA, Guam—Community First Guam Federal Credit Union is the only financial institution in Guam to receive capital investment from the U.S. Department of Treasury as part of the Treasury's Emergency Capital Investment Program.

Community First received \$10 million through the ECIP, which was established by the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2021 to encourage community financial institutions to support small businesses and low-to-moderate-income households in their communities.

"These essential funds provide opportunity to underserved communities across the country, helping them to regain their footing following the pandemic and strength-

» Credit union receives \$10M through Treasury's Emergency Capital Investment Program

ening their resilience against future shocks," said Secretary of the Treasury Janet L. Yellen. "Today's announcement is a significant step toward expanding access to the capital and services to rebuild and fuel long-term economic growth."

Gerard Cruz, president and CEO of Community First, said, "The ECIP capital fund expands our lending capacity for families and businesses at a time when our community is still recovering after economic turmoil as a result of the pandemic."

According to the U.S. Treasury, it made more than

\$8.28 billion of investments in 162 community financial institutions across the United States and its territories. The investments support community financial institutions so they may be able to provide low-income and financially underserved communities through loans, grants, and other assistance to small and minority-owned businesses and consumers that have been affected by the COVID-19 crisis.

Under the program, the U.S. Treasury provided \$8.285 billion in capital directly to depository institutions that are certified

Community Development Financial Institutions (CDFIs) or minority depository institutions (MDIs). According to the Treasury, the capital will provide loans, grants, and forbearance for small businesses, minority-owned businesses, and consumers, especially in low-income and underserved communities, which may be disproportionately impacted by the economic effects of the COVID-19 pandemic.

With \$10 million in total investment, Guam received a more sizable share than seven states, including Hawaii. The top three states to receive investments were Mississippi (\$1.65 billion), Louisiana (\$780.78 million), and North Carolina (\$734.6 million). **(PR)**

DOI Assistant Secretary Cantor visits PCC

U.S. Department of Interior Assistant Secretary for Insular & International Affairs Carmen G. Cantor visited Palau Community College and met with president Dr. Patrick U. Tellei, vice president of Administration & Finance Jay Olegeriil, vice president of CRE Dr. Christopher Kitalong, dean of Academic Affairs Deikola Olikong, dean of Students Hilda N. Reklai, dean of Continuing Education Hedrick Kual, and ASPCC president Weber Santiago last Sept. 19.

Tellei welcomed Cantor and gave a brief presentation

on the college accreditation status, U.S. federal programs, federal student aid, higher education programs, and future academic program initiatives such as bachelor of science which is expected to begin next school year.

Palau Community College is an accessible comprehensive public educational institution helping to meet the technical, academic, cultural, social, and economic needs of students and communities by promoting learning opportunities and developing personal excellence. **(PR)**

APIPA completes successful annual conference

WASHINGTON, D.C.—The U.S. Department of the Interior's Office of Insular Affairs applauds the Association of Pacific Islands Public Auditors on completing its 33rd annual conference, held virtually from Aug. 29 to Sept. 2, 2022. More than 500 government financial accountability officials attended from all the Insular Areas and beyond.

Assistant Secretary Carmen Cantor shared welcome remarks by video encouraging the continued strengthening of accountability in the islands despite the challenges of distance and the recent

pandemic. She also assured the participants of continued support of the Biden-Harris administration to address climate change, which continues to impact all of us at alarming rates, especially in the Insular Areas.

The APIPA 2022 conference provided training for auditing and financial accountability officials with participants having the opportunity to receive up to 20 hours of continuing professional education credits, required by government auditing standards for auditors to maintain their professional

competency. Thirteen two-hour and four-hour courses were delivered during the conference in Plenary, Audit, and Finance tracks. The 2022 APIPA Conference, like prior years, showed excellent attendance. More than 507 participants joined the conference, expanding their skills in government auditing and financial standards, audit report writing, grants management, leadership, risk, and internal controls. In total, over 2,785 course certificates were awarded for 7,028 credit hours.

The APIPA virtual confer-

ence was hosted this year by the Federated States of Micronesia Office of the National Public Auditor and opened with remarks from FSM President David Panuelo encouraging participants to enhance accountability in their respective jurisdictions. APIPA Chair FSM National Public Auditor Haser Hainrick welcomed the attendees emphasizing the importance of maintaining core competencies in accountability to better serve the government and the public. Also participating in the meeting was the Inspector General of the U.S.

Department of the Interior, Mark Lee Greenblatt; Special Agent Karden Kelly of the Office of Inspector General; and the Hawaii State Auditor, Les Kondo.

The Insular Area government officials participating in this year's virtual conference came from American Samoa, Guam, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, the U.S. Virgin Islands, the FSM, the Republic of the Marshall Islands, the Republic of Palau; and were joined by government officials from Hawai'i, Fiji, and the Independent State of Samoa. Further, Representatives from the FSM came from the national government and each of its four states—Chuuk, Kosrae, Pohnpei, and Yap.

Conference training was funded through the U.S. Department of the Interior's Office of Insular Affairs and

delivered by the Graduate School USA's Pacific and Virgin Islands Training Initiatives.

The Assistant Secretary of Insular and International Affairs and the Office of Insular Affairs carry out the Secretary of the Interior's responsibilities for the U.S. territories of American Samoa, Guam, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, and the U.S. Virgin Islands. Additionally, OIA administers and oversees federal assistance under the Compacts of Free Association to the Federated States of Micronesia, the Republic of the Marshall Islands, and the Republic of Palau. OIA also administers a discretionary Technical Assistance Program for all the insular areas. Find information about OIA and its work on www.doi.gov/oia, Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, and YouTube. (PR)

2022 Toys for Tots Campaign commences

DEDEDO, Guam—Marine Corps Base (MCB) Camp Blaz is proud to announce the start of the 13th Toys for Tots campaign in Guam and eighth in the Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas Islands. Marines from MCB Camp Blaz delivered toy collection boxes during the first week of October to participating organizations and businesses. Toy collection will conclude on Dec. 10.

Last year 6,239 toys were collected in Guam, going to children in need and spreading a message of happiness and hope during the holiday season. At the conclusion of the campaign, a total of 9,241 toys were distributed throughout the islands of Guam, Saipan, Tinian, and Rota.

"The generosity and holiday spirit of our local community is what makes our local Toys for Tots campaign successful, and it would not have been possible without the continued support from everyone," said Col. Christopher Bopp,

the MCB Camp Blaz commanding officer. "I would like to personally thank and recognize all of our donors and partners for their generosity and look forward to seeing the impact we can make in this upcoming season."

"We are honored to partner with Marine Corps Base Camp Blaz on the Toys for Tots program," said Catherine Castro, President of the Guam Chamber of Commerce. "We thank the community for their continued support of this special toy campaign that impacts the lives of so many children. Your generous gift contribution will leave a lasting impact on a child for years to come. Families with young children and older youth in need are encouraged to contact Catholic Social Service and the Salvation Army to sign their children up in time for toy distribution in December. Additionally, we are pleased to bring back the Toys for Tots High School Challenge MARINE

CORPS BASE CAMP BLAZ Communication Strategy & Operations E-Mail: Diann.Rosenfeld@fe.navy.mil and encourage all local high schools to consider participation. Winning schools in two prize categories will receive cash prizes for their school."

To participate and donate to Toys for Tots, bring a newly purchased, unwrapped toy to one of the many businesses or organizations who have volunteered to be drop-off locations. For a complete list of locations and important dates, please visit the Chamber's website at GuamChamber.com.gu, the MCB Camp Blaz Facebook page, @MCB-campblaz, or Instagram page, @mcbcampblaz. For a list of locations on Saipan please contact the Saipan Chamber of Commerce at (670) 234-7150.

"It's amazing to be able to look back and to see how much the Toys for Tots program has grown and the impact we are able to make in

the community," said Maj. Diann Rosenfeld, the Toys for Tots Lead Coordinator for Guam and the CNMI. "Each year we are able to help more children in our area because of the increased participation from not only the individuals who donate, but also the businesses who serve as collection points across the island."

For families in need and would like to request toys please contact either the Salvation Army at (671) 477-9872 or Catholic Social Services at (671) 635-1442.

The Marine Toys for Tots Foundation is a not-for-profit charity with a 75-year history. Last year the Marine Toys for Tots Program fulfilled the holiday hopes and dreams of 8.8 million less fortunate children in over 800 communities nationwide by distributing 22.4 million toys. Since 1947 over 289 million children have been assisted and 627 million toys distributed. For more information, visit www.toysfortots.org. (PR)

\$4,000 donated to Yamazaki Rengiil Memorial Scholarship

Gerald F. Smith and his wife Tobed R. Smith met with Palau Community College president Dr. Patrick U. Tellei and donated another \$4,000 to the late Ngirturong Yamazaki Rengiil Memorial Scholarship. The Smiths family has now donated a total of \$10,000 to the PCC endowment scholarship in his honor. Rengiil was a traditional chief of Ngeremlengui State who practiced carpentry by trade in Palau for many years. Noting his lifelong accomplishments, Rengiil was a master builder, educator, government advisor, public official, and a remarkably skilled man who

helped build some of Palau's first roads, bridges across Babeldaob and schools all over Palau. The recipient of this scholarship will receive \$250 per semester or \$500 per academic year. PCC thanked Gerald and Tobed Smith for their contribution to support student learning at our only higher institution. PCC is an accessible comprehensive public educational institution helping to meet the technical, academic, cultural, social, and economic needs of students and communities by promoting learning opportunities and developing personal excellence. (PR)



FAM TOUR

Japanese social media influencers tour the historic and scenic Marpi region of Saipan in The Marianas on Aug. 24, 2022, as part of a FAM tour conducted by the Marianas Visitors Authority.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Opinion

Hafa Adair

Saipan Tribune

THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER
Volume XXXII, Issue No. 192Published daily at 2/F JP Center,
Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, CNMI
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MEMBER

AP The Associated Press

Pacific Islands News Association

EDITORIAL

Why are prices rising so fast? Because there's cover.

Rushing to your gate at Chicago's O'Hare International Airport, your eye might alight on a book for sale at Barbara's Bookstore. Its title? "How to Raise Prices."

It must be a bestseller. Anyone who has eaten out has felt the sticker shock of a \$13 fast food lunch or an entree at the neighborhood bistro that was \$21 just a few months ago and is now \$29.

Why is this happening? You've likely read about the obvious reasons many times. Inflation, still surging. Rising wage bills thanks in part to government action. Health care costs. Lingering supply chain issues.

But there's another cause that gets less attention: business are raising prices because they can. Simply put, they can do so right now with relative impunity.

One fast-food franchise owner recently told us he had raised his menu prices four times over the last year alone. Sure, that's partly in response to increased costs, especially labor. But it's also, he said, because everyone else is raising prices and thus the resistance from the consumer is vastly reduced. If people are expecting to pay more, then they are more likely to have to pay more.

And the owner does not know how long this situation is going to last. So up the prices go, while they can.

When the dawn of internet shopping arrived, it was widely assumed by retail economists that there was to be increased price transparency going forward. If consumers could compare prices at every store in the world on their computers, the thinking went, there would be a shift toward what economists call perfect competition. The market would have fewer impediments and consumers easily could more find the best deal. And only the fittest retailers would survive.

But that's not what happened. Retailers became much more adept at obscuring prices, whether through unbundling, airline-style; requiring monthly fees or memberships to qualify; promoting private labels; or using social media data to squeeze the maximum juice from consumers.

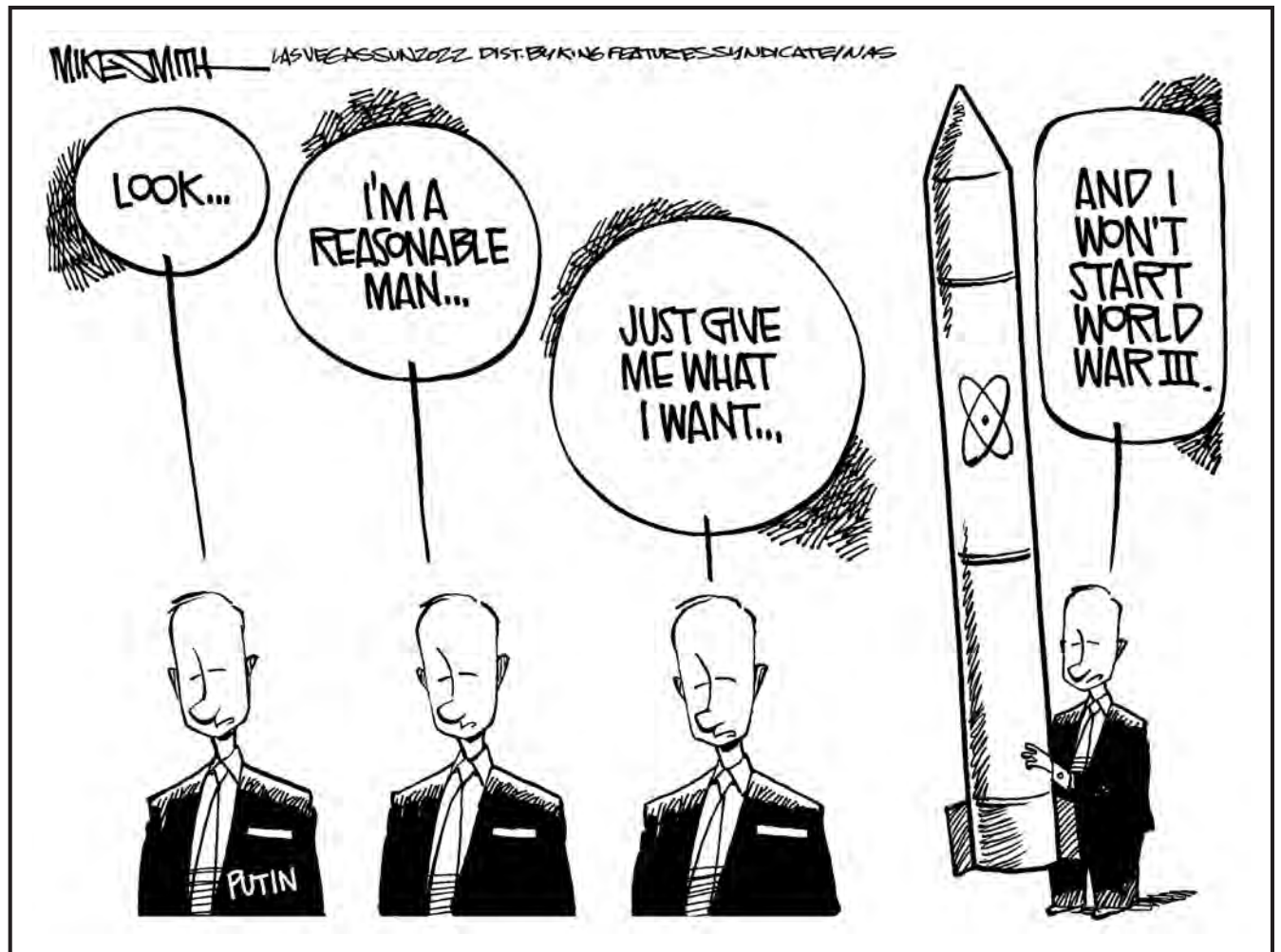
Instead of getting a golden age of price transparency, we now are in a situation where it is often nearly impossible to compare apples to apples.

Add in a lot of media attention to how fast prices are rising and, presto!, it becomes easier to raise prices.

Paradoxical as that may seem, it's one of the major causes of persistent inflation. If you don't know how much you're really paying, price resistance is reduced. We're seeing that everywhere.

Mercy, we ask, for the poor, beleaguered consumer.

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Puerto Rico and the US territories: The need to resolve their constitutional and political issues

By JOSE DELA CRUZ
SPECIAL TO THE SAIPAN TRIBUNE

First of a two-part series

I have just finished reading 1st Circuit Judge Gustavo Gelpi's book, *The Constitutional Evolution of Puerto Rico and Other U.S. Territories (1898-Present)*. For anyone interested in learning about the constitutional development and political history of Puerto Rico and the other territories of the United States, Judge Gelpi's book is an excellent primer on the subject.

The book discusses the history of the U.S. territories, particularly Puerto Rico, and their treatment (many times disparate and unfair) by the U.S. government, especially the U.S. Congress and the Supreme Court, ever since they became territories of the United States.

The reader will learn that since the acquisition of Puerto Rico, Guam, and the Philippines in 1898 as a result of the Spanish-American War, the United States has dealt with the territories primarily through "the plenary powers of Congress over the territories," as set forth in Article IV of the U.S. Constitution. Referred to as the "Territorial Clause," this provision of the U.S. Constitution gives Congress literally unfettered powers over the territories, i.e., as if the territories are merely properties belonging to the United States.

Soon after these islands became "territories" of the United States, a series of cases relating to Puerto Rico and the other territories were decided by the U.S. Supreme Court. They have since been referred to as "the Insular Cases." Composed of literally the same justices that decided the now infamous "separate but equal" case of *Plessy v. Ferguson*, the Supreme Court decided that the U.S. Constitution does not apply "of its own force" to Puerto Rico and the other territories, unless they are destined for statehood.

As such, Puerto Rico and the other so-called "unincorporated territories" (e.g., Guam, the Virgin Islands, American Samoa) were deemed to be "not a part of the United States" for purpose of the imposition of duty on goods entering the United States proper from

Puerto Rico. Presumably, only the 50 states constitute "the United States" for purposes of the U.S. Constitution. The Insular Cases have since been viewed as racist and demeaning to the inhabitants of the insular territories. For example, the Insular Cases viewed the inhabitants of the territories as uncivilized, primitive savages with alien customs, strange languages and cultures, and so forth.

Judge Gelpi's book discusses the decades of frustration on the part of the people and leaders of the U.S. territories with respect to the way that Congress and the Supreme Court have treated the territories ever since the Insular Cases were decided over a century ago. It took Congress a very long time to enact meaningful laws that began to address the rights of U.S.

citizens in the territories, including their right to govern themselves locally, as well as to be accorded some of the rights and privileges that are accorded U.S. citizens in the 50 states. For example, it took Congress over 50 years to enact federal legislation allowing Puerto Rico to draft and adopt its own local constitution. It also took Congress roughly 50 years to enact federal legislation

granting U.S. citizenship to the people of Guam.

And to this day, the territories of Guam and the Virgin Islands are still governed pursuant to their respective Organic Acts, which Congress had enacted for those territories in 1950, and which have been amended by Congress several times since to, among others, allow for an elected territorial executive, to provide for a territorial supreme court and to have an elected delegate to the U.S. Congress. To the present, the territorial governments of Guam and the Virgin Islands remain creatures of federal legislation. Unlike the Northern Mariana Islands, these two territories still do not have their own local constitution. And although Congress has since permitted both territories to draft and adopt their own constitutions, Guam still has not done so. The Virgin Islands had earlier drafted a local constitution, but it was not approved by Congress.

To be continued

Jose Dela Cruz is a former chief justice of the CNMI Supreme Court.

It took Congress a very long time to enact meaningful laws that began to address the rights of U.S. citizens in the territories...

EDITORIAL POLICY

Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

On the precipice of change, education always leads the way

After attending the State of Education Address on Sept. 22, 2022, presented by the three key educational institutions in the CNMI—the CNMI Public School System, Northern Marianas Technical Institute and Northern Marianas College—I am optimistic about the direction of education in the CNMI. These institutions' collective effort to provide high quality education and training for our people reinforces the fact that the CNMI is a leader in our region when it comes to education and access.

Collaboration was a major theme throughout the night as each institution shared their efforts to create alliances with partnering stakeholders for interagency, cross-sectional advancement. It was an encouraging reminder that it is through these systemic relationships that collaboration and reciprocity can take root, closing gaps and reallocating resources to reduce duplication and expand educational reach in our communities. By the end of the night, it was clear that we can credit the success of our education institutions to the collaboration between all stakeholders, and their collective use of a growth mindset as they navigate the inevitable waves of change and innovation that comes with a modern world.

Interagency collaboration is something I have been actively advocating for for years in my role as a long-time educator and now as a legislator. This is also a huge reason why I even considered running for office in the first place. I truly believe that by working together, we can achieve shared goals that will lead our people to financial independence and security in the workforce.

In education, we have to consider that we are sometimes preparing students for jobs that do not exist yet. This is why having a growth mindset is so important. In this ever-changing world with technology and innovation, we must embrace challenges, learn from feedback, and pursue training.

Every school institution must foster values that embrace and promote all career pathways. Math, science, and creativity are foundational and part of every path—whether it is college or trades. Solving the systemic puzzle of transition between educa-

tional institutions is one of the commitments I have made while in office—to fill gaps in service and build bridges of support.

The contractors licensing bill, House Bill 22-115, mentioned by CEO Attao in her speech, is one of those efforts brought to life. House Bill 22-115 is a collaboration between NMTECH, private sector partners, and the Guam Contractors Association. HB 22-115 focuses on ensuring safety and equitable competition in the contractor fields and on filling the gaps of funding for apprenticeships in the construction trades.

A partnering bill that we have been working on and anticipate filing in the next month in the House of Representatives is an apprenticeship bill that will persevere in building bridges between these educational institutions, the Department of Labor, and the private sector. This bill's intent is to connect people in training directly to the private sector in order to meet the workforce needs that must be addressed as the CNMI prepares to transition away from the CW program. There is so much work to do in this area before the December 2029 deadline. In order to make it happen, we all must be agents of change.

Dr. G spoke at length about leading as change agents in education. A change agent is someone who promotes and enables change to happen within a group or organization. Educators and education are often the change agents of a community. One of the keys to being a change agent is open communication. This helps people know what to expect. Another important aspect of being a change agent is valuing collective input and feedback from your stakeholders. This is how a change agent builds collective efficacy: the belief that together we can accomplish any goal.

These concepts are key to managing effective change in any organization. These are concepts that I have had extensive training and experience in implementing as a high school principal that successfully changed a school culture to be high performing. This is no easy feat. It takes time, patience, and, most of all, consistency.

Each educational institution alluded to the fact that the CNMI

By LEILA FLEMING STAFFLER
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Leila Fleming Staffler is the chairwoman of the CNMI House Committee on Education and Labor, a former educator, and high school principal. She is the Democratic candidate for lieutenant governor, running with Rep. Christina "Tina" Sablan, in the 2022 CNMI general election.



is on the precipice of change. As Public School System Commissioner Dr. Alfred Ada urged us to consider: 30 years from now, what do you envision for our schools, our workforce and our community?

For me, I envision our educational system as one renowned for its ability to prepare students to become skilled workers and great citizens. Our workforce will be a collaborative one with healthy, fair competition among thriving local businesses. Our community will continue to grow in diversity, opening up the doorways for us to learn, grow, and work with one another to improve our collective quality of life in our beloved Marianas.

It is clear that to make that vision come to fruition, we must start today. We must focus on systemic realignment of services and programs so that our people can have access to opportunities and a future that is ready for them. If we want to see change in our economic and social outcomes, we must continue to look at how we can be innovative in our approach to education and workforce development.

Tina Sablan and I are committed to this collaborative effort of systemic change. With your support this Nov. 8, we will continue to be change agents of our government, working toward a brighter future for all who call this community home.

Whew—the 11th Circuit slapped back at Trump's wacko claim to the Mar-a-Lago documents

The U.S. 11th Circuit Court of Appeals on Wednesday evening reversed U.S. District Court Judge Aileen Cannon's refusal to grant the Justice Department a stay in the case of the Mar-a-Lago documents (Cannon's second outrageous piece of work related to the purloined White House records). The appeals court decision had the feeling of awakening from a bad dream.

Many commentators, including me, had emphasized that the legal and logical failings in Cannon's rulings were not subtle or even matters of judicial philosophy. Rather they were blunders driven by ludicrously poor and possibly partisan judicial reasoning.

They incorporated such basic missteps as ignoring the need for proof and evidence, and they repeatedly intruded on executive branch territory over issues such as whether assessing damage caused by Donald Trump's treatment of classified documents required the participation of the FBI.

The 11th Circuit's rebuke was definitive. In a unanimous, "per curiam" opinion by two Trump-appointed judges and one Obama-appointed judge, the decision departed from Cannon's bottom line and nearly all of her slipshod reasoning. "Per curiam" emphasizes the ruling; it means the court spoke in one voice, rather than two judges joining the authored opinion of the third.

And given how quickly the 11th Circuit judges acted, it is a safe bet that the opinion was being written even as the parties' filings were coming in. That suggests that the appeals judges saw the case as not close, and that they recognized an urgent need to halt the damage to national security and the Justice Department's criminal investigation that Cannon had inflicted.

On the core question of whether Trump has some possessory interest in the classified documents that were at issue, the court could not have been more definite: "We cannot discern why

(Trump) would have an individual interest in or need for any of the 100 documents with classification markings."

That sounds restrained, but—ouch—in appellate judge speak it's basically a way of saying Cannon was nuts to reject the department's request to stay her ruling that documents marked classified should be out of bounds for investigation.

In a similarly no-nonsense tone, the court mowed down supposition after supposition that had formed the ramshackle scaffolding of Cannon's thinking. Of course there is injury to the United States if it cannot pursue a criminal investigation and national intelligence review related to classified documents. Obviously Trump has not even attempted to show a need for the information in the documents. Plainly there is no special injury to Trump if he's the subject of a criminal investigation.

This last point was particularly significant because it took Cannon to task—politely, again—for her obnoxious ruling that Trump perhaps shouldn't be prosecuted because he is a former president.

As for Trump's coy efforts to have it both ways on the declassification issue—suggesting he declassified documents but providing no evidence—the 11th Circuit went even further in torpedoing it than Judge Raymond Dearie, the special master who has been appointed in the case at Cannon's behest, had done.

Dearie told Trump's lawyers they would have to put up or shut up on declassification evidence. But the 11th Circuit panel took the issue entirely off the table. It reasoned that whether Trump had declassified documents was a "red herring" because declassification would not change the documents' contents or render them personal. The content, in other words, is what determines whether a document belongs to Trump or the government.

Presumably, the appeals court's ruling greatly simplifies Dearie's special master task. He will be able to make quick work of

By HARRY LITMAN
Los Angeles Times








filtering out what is covered by attorney-client privilege among the documents. As for the balance, including what documents might be covered by executive privilege, the 11th Circuit seems to require specific evidence of Trump's personal interest in the content to even put documents into dispute. In any event, the sideshow of Cannon's special master set-up should not impair the vigorous pursuit of the criminal investigation into the Mar-a-Lago documents.

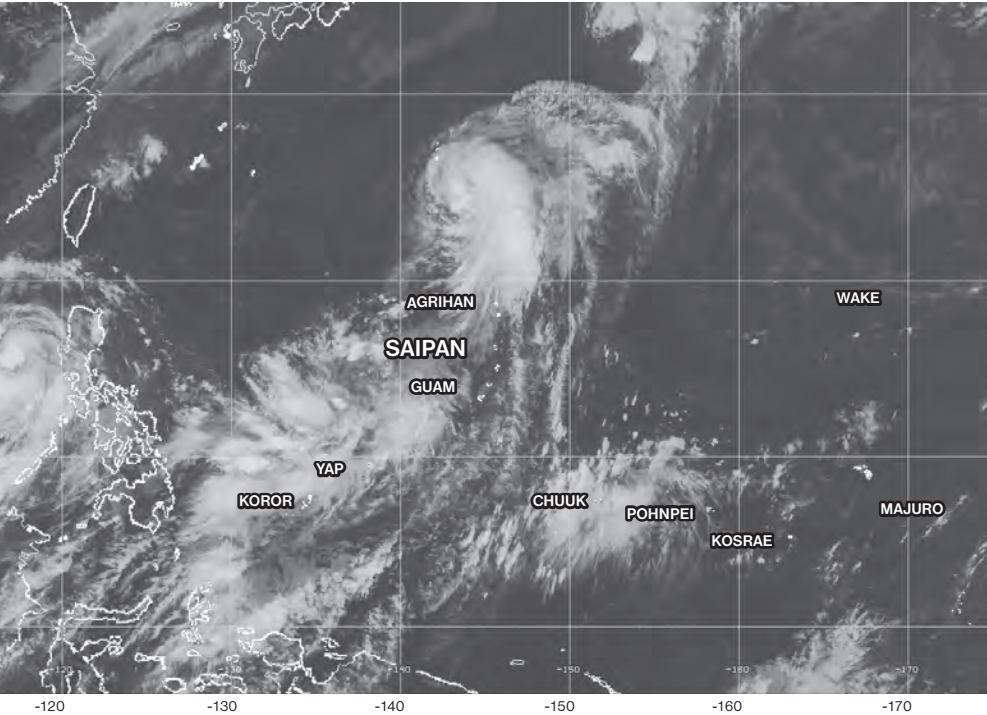
In all, the 11th Circuit signaled a huge reduction if not the elimination of Cannon's mischief-making.

Trump tried again to push his declassification defense in an interview Wednesday night with Fox News' Sean Hannity. "There doesn't have to be a process," he said. "If you're the president ... you can declassify ... even by thinking about it." The circuit court ruling blows that fantasy out of the water.

Cannon has suffered a humiliating admonishment in her first case of any prominence. The obvious lesson for her is that she needs solid law backed by actual evidence in order to hold for the former president going forward. In light of the 11th Circuit's instructions, by far the worst of what she did will be remedied, and the system has dodged a Cannonball.

The Weather

5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN									
TODAY		WEDNESDAY		THURSDAY		FRIDAY		SATURDAY	
									
Scattered showers and thunderstorms. Partly sunny		Isolated showers. Mostly sunny		Partly sunny		A chance of showers. Partly sunny		A chance of showers. Partly sunny	
88°	77°	88°	78°	87°	77°	86°	77°	87°	77°
YESTERDAY'S SATELLITE IMAGE									



PICTURE TIME: 8:14 AM, MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 2022

Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Moderate southerlies prevail in the Marianas tonight, as tropical disturbance 96W continues to move away from the region to the north. Ritidian buoy indicates seas are between 4 and 5 feet.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

MICRONESIA			▲▼°F
Guam and Rota	Partly Cloudy	86° / 79°	
Palau	Thunderstorms	86° / 79°	
Yap	Thunderstorms	85° / 80°	
Chuuk	Partly Cloudy	86° / 80°	
Pohnpei	Thunderstorms	85° / 77°	
Kosrae	Cloudy	85° / 77°	
Majuro	Thunderstorms	87° / 81°	

DAY	SUNRISE	SUNSET
Today	6:06 AM	6:09 PM
Wednesday	6:06 AM	6:08 PM
Thursday	6:06 AM	6:08 PM
Friday	6:06 AM	6:07 PM
Saturday	6:06 AM	6:06 PM

DAY	MOONRISE	MOONSET	MOONRISE
Today	6:59 AM	7:09 PM	-
Wednesday	7:52 AM	7:49 PM	-
Thursday	8:47 AM	8:32 PM	-
Friday	9:46 AM	9:20 PM	-
Saturday	10:47 AM	10:14 PM	-

AROUND THE GLOBE			▲▼°F
Auckland	Mostly Cloudy	62° / 56°	
Beijing	Mostly Sunny	87° / 58°	
Hong Kong	Partly Cloudy	89° / 81°	
Honolulu	Mostly Sunny	87° / 75°	
London	Showers	55° / 45°	
Los Angeles	Sunny	89° / 67°	
Manila	Thunderstorms	85° / 76°	
Melbourne	Rain	61° / 54°	
Miami	Thunderstorms	85° / 78°	
New York	Rain	75° / 58°	
Osaka	Mostly Sunny	86° / 69°	
Paris	Rain	59° / 51°	
Busan	Showers	77° / 67°	
Rome	Showers	73° / 59°	
Salem	Sunny	84° / 54°	
San Francisco	Partly Cloudy	68° / 55°	
Seoul	Mostly Sunny	83° / 58°	
Tokyo	Mostly Sunny	83° / 66°	
Washington, DC	Partly Cloudy	77° / 54°	

TIDES: SAIPAN HARBOR TODAY			FEET
2:24 AM	Low Tide	0.48	
8:17 AM	High Tide	1.91	
2:35 PM	Low Tide	0.49	
8:28 PM	High Tide	1.93	

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF SEPTEMBER 13, 2022

DEPARTURES				ARRIVALS			
SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)				GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN			
UA117	9:50AM	10:30AM	Daily	UA174	8:00AM	8:45AM	Daily
UA156	6:30PM	7:15PM	6	UA112	4:40PM	5:30PM	6
GUAM-MANILA (MNL)				MANILA (MNL)-GUAM			
PR 111	6:00AM	8:00AM	Daily	PR110	10:00PM	4:00AM+1	Daily
UA193	7:05PM	10:55PM	5 via Palau	UA184	10:25PM	4:25AM+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 7
UA183	7:10PM	9:10PM	Daily	UA192	10:25PM	6:15AM+1	5 via Palau
				UA184	11:50PM	5:40AM+1	5
SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)				MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN			
UA117/183	9:50AM	9:10PM	Daily via Guam	UA184/174	10:25PM	8:45AM+1	1,2,3, 4, 6,7 via Guam
UA117/193	9:50AM	10:55PM	5 via Guam, Palau	UA192/174	10:25PM	8:45AM+1	5 via Palau, Guam
				UA184/174	11:50PM	8:45AM+1	5 via Guam
SAIPAN-NARITA				NARITA-SAIPAN			
UA824	7:00AM	9:30AM	1, 3, 5	UA825	9:25PM	2:00 AM+1	2, 4, 7
SAIPAN-INCHEON (ICN)				INCHEON (ICN)-SAIPAN			
TW308	3:30PM	7:20PM	3, 4, 6, 7	7C3406	8:30AM	2:10PM	6
7C3405	3:30PM	7:25PM	6	7C3406	8:50AM	2:30PM	4
7C3405	3:50PM	7:45PM	3, 4, 7	7C3406	8:50AM	2:50PM	3, 7
OZ624	4:00PM	7:40PM	3, 6	OZ623	9:00AM	2:30PM	3, 6
				TW307	9:00AM	2:30PM	4, 6, 7
				TW307	9:15AM	2:30PM	3
SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)				BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN			
7C3451	3:00PM	6:35PM	3, 7	BX622	8:00AM	1:10PM	3, 7
BX621	3:10PM	6:30PM	3, 7	7C3452	9:00AM	2:00PM	3, 7

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); UA United Airlines; PR, Philippine Airlines; TW, T*Way Air; OZ, Asiana Airlines; 7C, Jeju Air; BX, Air Busan • ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. (The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

MARIANAS SOUTHERN AIRWAYS

INITIAL DAILY FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF AUGUST 18, 2022

SAIPAN TO TINIAN			TINIAN TO SAIPAN		
DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY	DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY
7:00 A.M.	7:15 A.M.	(Except Sundays)	7:35 A.M.	7:50 A.M.	(Except Sundays)
9:50 A.M.	10:05 A.M.		10:25 A.M.	10:40 A.M.	
4:00 P.M.	4:15 P.M.	(Except Saturdays)	4:35 P.M.	4:50 P.M.	(Except Saturdays)
SAIPAN TO ROTA			ROTA TO SAIPAN		
DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY	DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY
8:10 A.M.	8:40 A.M.		9:00 A.M.	9:30 A.M.	
1:45 P.M.	2:15 P.M.		2:35 P.M.	3:05 P.M.	
SAIPAN TO GUAM			GUAM TO SAIPAN		
DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY	DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY
11:10 A.M.	12:00 P.M.		12:30 P.M.	1:20 P.M.	
5:15 P.M.	6:05 P.M.		6:40 P.M.	7:30 P.M.	

STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF JUNE 1, 2022

SAIPAN TO ROTA				ROTA TO SAIPAN			
FLIGHT #	DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY	FLIGHT #	DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY
1301	8:30	9:00	Daily	3101	9:30	10:00	Daily
1302	11:00	11:30	Mon/Wed/Fri	3102	13:00	13:30	Tues/Thurs/Sat/Sun
1302	12:00	12:30	Tues/Thurs/Sat/Sun	3102	14:00	14:30	Mon/Wed/Fri
1303	15:30	16:00	Daily	3103	16:30	17:00	Daily
ROTA TO GUAM				GUAM TO ROTA			
LIGHT #	DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY	FLIGHT #	DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY
3401	12:00	12:30	Mon/Wed/Fri	4301	13:00	13:30	Mon/Wed/Fri
SAIPAN TO TINIAN				TINIAN TO SAIPAN			
FLIGHT #	DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY	FLIGHT #	DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY
1202	8:00	8:15	Daily	2102	8:30	8:45	Daily
1203	9:00	9:15	Daily	2103	9:30	9:45	Daily
1204	10:00	10:15	Daily	2104	10:30	10:45	Daily
1208	14:00	14:15	Daily	2108	14:30	14:45	Daily
1209	15:00	15:15	Daily	2109	15:30	15:45	Daily
1210	16:00	16:15	Daily	2110	16:30	16:45	Daily
1211	17:00	17:15	Daily	2111	17:30	17:45	Daily

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Business

Dow sinks to 2022 low as recession fears roil world markets

By DAMIAN J. TROISE and ALEX VEIGA
AP BUSINESS WRITERS

Stocks fell sharply worldwide Friday on worries an already slowing global economy could fall into recession as central banks raise the pressure with additional interest rate hikes.

The Dow Jones Industrial Average fell 1.6%, closing at its lowest level since late 2020. The S&P 500 fell 1.7%, close to its 2022 low set in mid-June, while the Nasdaq slid 1.8%.

The selling capped another rough week on Wall Street, leaving the major indexes with their fifth weekly loss in six weeks.

Energy prices closed sharply lower as traders worried about a possible recession. Treasury yields, which affect rates on mortgages and other kinds of loans, held at multiyear highs.

European stocks fell just as sharply or more after preliminary data there suggested business activity had its worst monthly contraction since the start of 2021. Adding to the pressure was a new plan announced in London to cut taxes, which sent U.K. yields soaring because it could ultimately force its central bank to raise rates even more sharply.

The Federal Reserve and other central banks around the world aggressively hiked in-



AP
Visitors to the financial district walk past the New York Stock Exchange, Friday, Sept. 23, 2022, in New York.

its for U.S. companies with lots of overseas business, as well as put a financial squeeze on much of the developing world.

The S&P 500 fell 64.76 points to 3,693.23, its fourth straight drop. The Dow, which at one point was down more than 800 points, lost 486.27 points to close at 29,590.41. The Nasdaq fell 198.88 points to 10,867.93.

Smaller company stocks did even worse. The Russell 2000 fell 42.72 points, or 2.5%, to close at 1,679.59.

More than 85% of stocks in the S&P 500 closed in the red, with technology companies, retailers and banks among the biggest weights on the benchmark index.

The Federal Reserve on Wednesday lifted its benchmark rate, which affects many consumer and business loans, to a range of 3% to 3.25%. It was at virtually zero at the start of the year. The Fed also released a forecast suggesting its benchmark rate could be 4.4% by the year's end, a full point higher than envisioned in June.

terest rates this week in hopes of undercutting high inflation, with more big increases promised for the future. Such moves put the brakes on economies by design, in hopes that slower purchases by households and businesses will deflate inflationary pressures. But they also threaten a recession, if they rise too far or too quickly.

Besides Friday's discourag-

ing data on European business activity, a separate report suggested U.S. activity is also still shrinking, though not quite as badly as in earlier months.

"Financial markets are now fully absorbing the Fed's harsh message that there will be no retreat from the inflation fight," Douglas Porter, chief economist at BMO Capital Markets, wrote in a research report.

U.S. crude oil prices slid 5.7% to their lowest levels since early this year on worries that a weaker global economy will burn less fuel. Cryptocurrency prices also fell sharply because higher interest rates tend to hit hardest the investments that look the priciest or

the most risky.

Even gold fell in the worldwide rout, as bonds paying higher yields make investments that pay no interest look less attractive. Meanwhile the U.S. dollar has been moving sharply higher against other currencies. That can hurt prof-

Fire breaks out at world's biggest produce market in Paris

PARIS (AP)—A billowing column of dark smoke towered over Paris on Sunday from a warehouse blaze at a massive produce market that supplies the French capital and surrounding region with much of its fresh food and bills itself as the largest of its kind in the world.

Firefighters urged people to stay away from the area in Paris' southern suburbs, as 100 officers and 30 fire engines battled the blaze at the Rungis International Market.

Capt. Marc Le Moine, a spokesman for the Paris fire service, said no one was injured. The fire was brought under control and there was no risk of it spreading from the soccer field-sized warehouse, covering an area of 7,000 square meters (1.7 acres), he said.

The cause of the blaze was unknown but will be investigated, he added.

The sprawling wholesale market is a veritable town unto itself, with more than 12,000 people working there and warehouses filled with fruit and vegetables, seafood, meats, dairy products and flowers from across France and around the world.



AP
In this image taken from video, smoke rises from a warehouse blaze at a produce market in Paris' southern suburbs, Sunday, Sept. 25, 2022.

Poverty and inflation: Egypt's economy hit by global turmoil

DUBAI, United Arab Emirates (AP)—Stores are selling winter clothes from last season in the middle of summer. Repair shops lack spare parts for appliances. There's a waiting list to buy a new car.

Egypt, a country of more than 103 million people, is running low on foreign currency needed to buy essentials like grain and fuel. To keep U.S. dollars in the country, the government has tightened imports, meaning fewer new cars and summer dresses.

For the nearly third of Egyptians living in poverty, and the millions more in poor conditions, the coun-

try's economic woes mean life is much harder than off-season shopping—they're finding it harder to put food on the table. A decade after deadly protests and political upheaval rocked the Middle East's most populous nation, the economy is still staggering and has taken new hits.

Fatima, a 32-year-old cleaner in Cairo, says her family stopped buying red meat five months ago. Chicken also has become a luxury. She's borrowing from relatives to make ends meet.

She's worried about the impact of high prices on Egypt's social fabric. Asking to be identified only by her first name for fear of reprisal,

she worries that crime and theft will increase "because people won't have enough money to feed themselves."

For decades, most Egyptians have depended on the government to keep basic goods affordable, but that social contract is under pressure due to the impact from Russia's war in Ukraine. Egypt has sought loans to pay for grain imports for state-subsidized bread. It's also grappling with surging consumer prices as the currency drops in value. The threat of food insecurity in the world's largest importer of wheat, 80% of which comes from the war-torn Black Sea region, has raised concerns.

Musk faces deposition with Twitter ahead of October trial

WILMINGTON, Del. (AP)—Tesla CEO Elon Musk is scheduled to spend the next few days with lawyers for Twitter, answering questions ahead of an October trial that will determine whether he must carry through with his \$44 billion agreement to acquire the social platform after attempting to back out of the deal.

The deposition, planned for Monday, Tuesday and a possible extension on Wednesday,

will not be public. As of Sunday evening it was not clear whether Musk will appear in person or by video. The trial is set to begin October 17 in Delaware Chancery Court, where it's scheduled to last just five days.

Musk, the world's richest man, agreed in April to buy Twitter and take it private, of-



Musk

fering \$54.20 a share and vowing to loosen the company's policing of content and to root out fake accounts. Twitter shares closed Friday at \$41.58.

Musk indicated in July that he wanted to back away from the deal, prompting Twitter to file a lawsuit to force him to carry through with the acquisition.

Nation

Tropical Storm Ian strengthens as it heads to Cuba, Florida

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. (AP)—Authorities and residents in Florida were keeping a cautious eye on Tropical Storm Ian as it rumbled ominously through the Caribbean on Sunday, likely to become a major hurricane on its path toward the state.

Gov. Ron DeSantis has declared a state of emergency throughout Florida and urged residents to prepare for the storm to lash large swaths of the state with heavy rains, high winds and rising seas.

Forecasters are still unsure of exactly where Ian could make landfall, with current models plotting it toward Florida's west coast or panhandle regions, he said.

"We're going to keep monitoring the track of this storm. But it really is important to stress the degree of uncertainty that still exists," DeSantis said at a news conference Sunday, cautioning that "even if you're not necessarily right in the eye of the path of the storm, there's going to be pretty broad impacts throughout the state."

The National Hurricane

AP
In this photo provided by Wreckhouse Press a home fights against high winds caused by post Tropical Storm Fiona in Port aux Basques, Newfoundland and Labrador, Saturday, Sept. 24, 2022.



Center said Ian is expected to become a hurricane on Monday and reach major hurricane strength Tuesday. Flash and urban flooding is possible in the Florida Keys and Florida peninsula

through midweek, and then heavy rainfall was possible for north Florida, the Florida panhandle and the southeast United States later this week.

The agency placed a tropical storm watch over the lower

Florida Keys on Sunday evening and has advised Floridians to have hurricane plans in place and monitor updates of the storm's evolving path.

A hurricane warning was in effect Sunday for Grand Cay-

man and the Cuban provinces of Isla de Juventud, Pinar del Rio and Artemisa.

Cuban state media said emergency authorities have met to plan for the storm's arrival and prepare for evacuations, though none had been ordered as of Sunday. The track forecast by the National Hurricane Center shows a major storm striking the far-

western part of the island early Tuesday, close to the country's most famed tobacco fields.

President Joe Biden also declared an emergency, authorizing the Department of Homeland Security and the Federal Emergency Management Agency, or FEMA, to coordinate disaster relief and provide assistance to protect lives and property. The president postponed a scheduled Sept. 27 trip to Florida because of the storm.

John Cangialosi, a senior hurricane specialist at the Miami-based center, said in an interview Sunday that it is not clear exactly where Ian will hit hardest in Florida. Residents should begin preparations, including gathering supplies for potential power outages, he said.

"It's a hard thing to say stay tuned, but that's the right message right now," Cangialosi said "But for those in Florida, it's still time to prepare. I'm not telling you to put up your shutters yet or do anything like that, but it's still time to get your supplies."

Local media in Florida have reported a consumer rush on water, generators and other supplies in some areas where residents moved to stock up on goods ahead of the storm.



ACROSS THE NATION

San Diego County to pay \$1.35M over 2018 in-custody death

SAN DIEGO (AP)—San Diego County and other defendants have agreed to pay \$1.35 million to settle a lawsuit filed by the mother of a Mexican citizen who died after sheriff's deputies arrested him in 2018, officials said. The lawsuit filed by Dolores Rosales, of Tijuana, alleged deputies used excessive force when they took her son, Marco Antonio Nápoles-Rosales, into custody in August 2018, the San Diego Union-Tribune reported. The court filing claimed the deputies used a stun gun, their body weight and a wrap-around restraint device to subdue Nápoles-Rosales, who was suspected of trespassing at a gas station in Fallbrook. He lost consciousness during the arrest and was taken to a hospital, where he died the next day.

Heavy crane topples onto downtown Oklahoma City building

OKLAHOMA CITY (AP)—A 60-ton crane being used to remove a video display board from a downtown Oklahoma City building toppled onto the building that houses several news offices, officials said. The crane's operator suffered minor injuries in the Saturday afternoon accident. Two other

men working in the bucket of a small crane and the building's occupants were not injured, police said. Oklahoma City police Detective Jonathan LaPuzza said the collapse caused some structural damage to the building that houses The Oklahoman newspaper, the Oklahoma Watch news website and television station KWTV. However, he said the extent and cost of the damage couldn't be determined immediately.

3 wounded in shooting at amusement park near Pittsburgh

West Mifflin, Pa. (AP)—Three people, including two teenagers, were wounded by gunfire late Saturday at an amusement park southeast of Pittsburgh, which was kicking off a Halloween-themed festival. Allegheny County police said a 39-year-old man and two 15-year-old boys sustained leg wounds in the gunfire shortly before 11 p.m. Saturday at Kennywood Park in West Mifflin. Park security responded along with local and county police who were working a security detail at the park. Emergency responders took the man and one of the youths to a hospital, where the man was treated for a gunshot wound to the leg and released. The youth was admitted with a

gunshot wound to the leg, and another youth grazed on the leg was brought to the hospital by a relative; both teens were listed in stable condition.

Police: Man arrested in California plotted mass shooting

CHICO, Calif. (AP)—A 37-year-old man was arrested Sunday in Northern California on suspicion of threatening to kill police officers and planning a "Las Vegas-style" mass shooting, authorities said. The suspect was taken into custody by SWAT officers at a Super 8 motel in Chico after detectives obtained evidence of his plot, according to a police statement. The evidence included unspecified information that he had made "criminal threats to kill specific individuals, specifying law enforcement officers, and was preparing to commit a 'Las Vegas style' mass shooting with a specified deadline," said the statement from the Chico Police Department. Sixty people were killed and more than 400 were wounded in Las Vegas when a gunman opened fire on a music festival from a high-rise hotel in 2017. After his arrest, the Chico suspect threatened to kill additional officers and their families, and he battered an officer with a table during the interview process, the police statement said.

Official: 2 killed amid crashes during pop-up NJ car rally

WILDWOOD, N.J. (AP)—A pop-up car rally over the weekend in southern New Jersey led to multiple crashes and the deaths of at least two people riding in a golf cart, officials say. Wildwood Mayor Pete Byron told NJ Advance Media on Sunday that there were a series of car crashes related to the "unsanctioned" car meet-up event, NJ.com reported. Byron said the two victims "were in a golf cart" but weren't believed to be taking part in the event. The mayor didn't have additional information on the identities of those killed or the nature of the crash. WCAU-TV reported damage to storefronts and knocked-over traffic meters, seen Sunday morning during cleanup efforts, and said Cape May prosecutors reported one person was in custody in connection with a fatal crash. Officials had earlier issued warnings about what they called an unsanctioned car rally separate from the Fall Classic Car Show taking place in Wildwood. Participants say the event gives enthusiasts a chance to gather and check out cars, but officials in other areas such as Ocean City, Maryland, have reported problems stemming from the event in previous years.

False claims, threats fuel poll worker sign-ups for midterms

ATLANTA (AP)—Outraged by false allegations of fraud against a Georgia elections employee in 2020, Amanda Rouser made a vow as she listened to the woman testify before Congress in June about the racist threats and harassment she faced.

"I said that day to myself, 'I'm going to go work in the polls, and I'm going to see what they're going to do to me,'" Rouser, who like the targeted employee is Black, recalled after stopping by a recruiting station for poll workers at Atlanta City Hall on a recent afternoon. "Try me, because I'm not scared of people."

About 40 miles north a day later, claims of fraud also brought Carolyn Barnes to a recruiting event for prospective poll workers, but with a different motivation.

"I believe that we had a fraudulent election in 2020 because of the mail-in ballots, the advanced voting," Barnes, 52, said after applying to work the polls for the first time in Forsyth County. "I truly believe that the more we flood the system with honest people

who are trying to help out, it will straighten it out."

Barnes, who declined to give her party affiliation, said she wants to use her position as a poll worker to share her observations about "the gaps" in election security and "where stuff could happen afterwards."

Nearly two years after the last presidential election, there has been no evidence of widespread fraud or manipulation of voting machines. Numerous reviews in the battleground states where former President Donald Trump disputed his loss to President Joe Biden have affirmed the results, courts have rejected dozens of lawsuits filed by Trump and his allies, and even Trump's own Department of Justice concluded the results were accurate.

Nevertheless, the false claims about the 2020 presidential contest by the former president and his supporters are spurring new interest in working the polls in Georgia and elsewhere for the upcoming midterm elections, according to interviews with election officials, experts and prospective poll workers.

World

Powerful typhoon leaves 5 rescuers dead in north Philippines



Residents give out free food as they wade through a flooded street in their village from Typhoon Noru in San Miguel town, Bulacan province, Philippines, Monday, Sept. 26, 2022.

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—Typhoon Noru blew out of the northern Philip-pines on Monday, leaving five rescuers dead, causing floods and power outages and forcing officials to sus-

pend classes and government work in the capital and outly-ing provinces. The most powerful ty-phoon to hit the country this year slammed into the coast in Burdeos town in Quezon

WORLD BRIEFS

Canada struggles to restore power after storm; body found
TORONTO (AP)—Hun-dreds of thousands of people in Atlantic Canada remained without power Sunday and officials said they found the body of a woman swept into the sea after former Hurricane Fiona washed away houses, stripped off roofs and blocked roads across the country’s At-lantic provinces. After surg-ing north from the Caribbean, Fiona came ashore before dawn Saturday as a post-trop-ical cyclone, battering Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island, Newfoundland and Quebec with hurricane-strength winds, rains and waves. Defense Minister Anita Anand said troops would help remove fallen trees, restore transpor-tation links and do whatever else is required for as long as it takes. Fiona was blamed for at least five deaths in the Caribbean, and one death in Canada. Authorities found the body of a 73-year-old woman in the water who was missing in Channel-Port Aux Basques, a town on the southern coast of Newfoundland.

Boat capsizes in Bangladesh kills at least 24 Hindu pilgrims
DHAKA, Bangladesh (AP)—A boat carrying about 100 Hindu pilgrims capsized Sunday in a river in north-ern Bangladesh, leaving at least 24 people dead, police said. The overcrowded boat overturned in the afternoon while returning from a Hindu temple on the other side of the River Karatoa at Boda area in

Panchagarh district, said lo-cal police chief S.M. Sirajul Huda. Divers and residents recovered at least 24 bodies by Sunday evening, he said, add-ing that at least 12 women and eight children were among the dead. He said many of the pas-sengers swam ashore. It was not immediately clear how many remained missing, but Huda said the divers contin-ued their search.

Italy voters shift sharply, reward Meloni’s far-right party
ROME (AP)—Italian voters rewarded Giorgia Meloni’s euroskeptic party with neo-fascist roots, propelling the country toward what likely would be its first far-right-led government since World War II, based on partial results Monday from the election for Parliament. In a victory speech, far-right Italian leader Giorgia Meloni struck a mod-erate tone after projections based on votes counted from some two-thirds of polling stations showed her Brothers of Italy party ahead of other contenders in Sunday’s ballot-ing. “If we are called to govern this nation, we will do it for everyone, we will do it for all Italians and we will do it with the aim of uniting the people (of this country),” Meloni said at her party’s Rome headquar-ters. “Italy chose us,” she said. “We will not betray (the coun-try) as we never have.” The formation of a ruling coal-ition, with the help of Meloni’s right-wing and center-right al-lies, could take weeks. If Mel-oni, 45, succeeds, she would be the first woman to hold the country’s premiership.

province before nightfall on Sunday then weakened as it barreled overnight across the main Luzon region, where thousands of people were moved to emergency shelters, some forcibly, of-ficials said. Gov. Daniel Fernando of Bulacan province, north of Manila, said five rescu-ers, who were using a boat to help residents trapped in floodwaters, were hit by a

collapsed wall then appar-ently drowned in the ram-paging waters. “They were living heroes who were helping save the lives of our countrymen amid this calamity,” Fernando told DZMM radio network. “This is really very sad.” On Polillo island in north-eastern Quezon province, a man was injured after falling off the roof of his house, of-ficials said.

More than 17,000 people were moved to emergency shelters from high-risk com-munities prone to tidal surges, flooding and landslides in Quezon alone, officials said. More than 3,000 people were evacuated to safety in Metropolitan Manila, which was lashed by fierce wind and rain overnight. Classes and government work were sus-pended Monday in the capi-tal and outlying provinces

as a precaution although the morning skies were sunny. The entire northern prov-inces of Aurora and Nueva Ecija, which were hit by the typhoon, remained without power Monday and repair crews were at work to bring back electricity, Energy Sec-retary Raphael Lotilla told President Ferdinand Marcos Jr. in a televised meeting he called to assess damages and coordinate disaster-response.

DEATH & FUNERAL ANNOUNCEMENT

RAMON CRUZ NGESKEBEI

BORN TO ETERNAL LIFE: SEPTEMBER 10, 1957 | CALLED TO ETERNAL LIFE: SEPTEMBER 21, 2022

Lovingly known as “Bo”

He now joins his:
Parents:

†Jesus Risong “Marino”
and †Nieves Cruz Ngeskebei
†Pedro Blas and †Ana Diaz Magofna
†Juan Muna and †Ana C. Cabrera
†Dennis John Ngeskebei
†Ricardo C. Ngeskebei
†Jesus C. Ngeskebei
†Frederico C. Ngeskebei

Nephew:
Godparents:

†Vincent Anthony Ngeskebei
†Manuel A. Indalecio
†Pedro T. Nakatsukasa
†Carmen S.N. Dela Cruz
†Joaquin Cruz Cabrera

Uncle:

He will be forever loved and missed by his:
Loving Wife: Cecilia Magofna Ngeskebei

Children and Family:

Anabel Magofna and Christopher Aldan Sablan and children
John Raymond Magofna Ngeskebei and children
Casandra Magofna Ngeskebei Blas and Gregorio Blas Jr. and children
Vincent Magofna Anthony Ngeskebei and Sharayah Rose
Lola Elvira Magofna Ngeskebei and Shadel Daniel and children
Marvin Jacob Magofna Ngeskebei and Kristen Salas (Xander Jordan)
Juljean Mollyanne Magofna Ngeskebei
Alden Eric Magofna Ngeskebei and Kimiko Aguilar and children
Pedro Jesus Magofna Ngeskebei
Francisca Rose Magofna Ngeskebei and Napu Pua

Reared Son:

Dennis John Ngeskebei and
Linda Lizama and family

Brothers, Sisters, and Spouse:

Cecilia Bothuel and family
Felisa and Tom Arnold and family
Jose and Melisa Ngeskebei and family
Emiliana and Tim Zeitler and family
Nenita M. Flowers and family
James Cabrera
Patrick Cabrera and family
Jeffrey Cabrera and family
Joan Cabrera and family

God Children:

Benigno I. Sablan Jr.
Joshua R. Ngeskebei
Clyde C. Sablan
Shane I. Ada
Francis Borja (Koichi)

In-Laws:

Rosario Togowa and family
†Vicente and Rosalina Magofna and family
Sinforosa D. Magofna and family
Estella and Antonio Cabrera and family
†Francisca and †Tomas M. Sablan and family
Diana and Jose Santos and family
Carmen M. Dempsey and family
Mollyann and Manuel Duenas and family
James John and Velma Magofna and family

He will be missed by his 26 grandchildren, 4 great-grandchildren, and friends, and family.

On the final day, Thursday, September 29, 2022. The remains will leave CHCC Morgue at 7:30 am and will be escorted to San Antonio Parish for viewing and last respects. Mass of Christian burial will be at 10:30 am followed by interment at the Tanapag Cemetery.

Thank you, Si Yu’us Ma’ase, Ke Kmal Me Sulang, Ghilisow

Cecilia Ngeskebei, Children, and Family.

Overdrive

By LARRY PRINTZ
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

Everyone everywhere is constantly telling you what to do. It's a constant when growing up, and it continues once you're older, as advertising tells you what to drink, smoke or wear. Your clergyman tells you when you're sinful. Even your pet tells you to feed it, usually by barking or meowing.

And now, cars have joined this cantankerous chorus. Any number of them have readouts that advise you to take a break from driving, usually accompanied by a graphic of a cup of steaming coffee. But now, Lexus has gone a step further, admonishing you to sit up straight on the all-new 2023 Lexus RX, like a nagging mother. It's hardly endearing.

All-new for 2023, RX afi-

cionados will find this newest model delightfully better but not threateningly new—nagging aside. Utilizing the Toyota corporate GA-K platform that will underpin a number of Lexus and Toyota vehicles, including the NX crossover and ES sedan. Its lower roof and longer wheelbase lend it a sportier vibe, although overall, its updated appearance doesn't stray far from the familiar. Overall size remains the same, although the three-row RX-L has been dropped—for now at least. So two rows are all you get.

You'll also get two fewer cylinders as the 3.5-liter V-6 is relegated to history. This may seem odd for a luxury vehicle, but not in an age where the internal combustion engine is being consigned to scrap heap by government dictate. For now, the sole conventional driveline is the base RX 350's 2.5-liter turbocharged four-cylinder engine and eight-speed automatic transmission.

Output is rated at 275 horsepower and 317 pound-feet of torque. Front-wheel drive is standard; all-wheel drive is available. Reaching 60 mph takes 7.6 seconds with front-wheel drive, 7.2 seconds with all-wheel drive.

Other drivelines are hybrids, but while they're a mixed bag. The RX 350h combines Lexus' dual-motor hybrid system with a 2.5-liter Atkinson-Cycle four-cylinder engine, continuously variable transmission and all-wheel drive. It generates 246 horsepower and 233 pound-feet of torque. Reaching 60 mph isn't any better than the gas engine, requiring 7.4 seconds. But whereas the RX 350 returns 25 mpg in combined city/highway driving with front-wheel drive and 24 mpg with all-wheel drive, the RX 350h delivers 36 mpg. The same hybrid setup with addition of a turbocharged 2.5-liter four generates 366 horsepower and 406 pound-

feet of torque, and reaches 60 mph in 5.9 seconds, but fuel economy suffers, at 27 mpg. All RX models require premium gasoline.

Toyota anticipates that 70% of RX sales will come from the 350, 20% from the 350h, and 10% from the 500h.

But while the drivelines have and design have changed, the RX's demeanor has not.

This is still very much the soft luxury-oriented tourer it's always been, with body leans in corners, and a commendably quiet ride in the RX 350. Power is adequate, but far from the abundant well of power you might expect. The same is true of the 350h hybrid, but at least it returns commendable fuel economy in exchange for its sluggish ways.

Needless to say, the RX 500h proved to be the fastest, thanks to its extra power and six-speed automatic transmission. Also, it was the most adept handler of the bunch,

yet still exhibited body roll while cornering despite the presence of adaptive dampers, front MacPherson strut suspension and a rear multi-link set-up. Power did come on smoothly, but all Toyota hybrids are set up so that the electric motor drones unpleasantly. Given the rest of the car is so quiet, can't engineers quell this unwelcome intrusion?

But of all the changes wrought on the new RX, it's the interior that makes for a significantly better experience. Gone are the touchpad and joystick, replaced by a large 14-inch touchscreen. Its interface was designed in America, and is easy to operate quickly. It's a huge improvement over the old system. It incorporates wireless Apple CarPlay and Android Auto, and is augmented by numerous USB ports, a thoughtfully placed Qi wireless charging pad, head-up display and an impressive

sounding 21-speaker Mark Levinson audio system.

When the audio system isn't on, you'll find the cabin to be a place of solitude, with comfortable seating and beautiful, well-assembled pieces. Its look is a bit simpler, as so many controls are now on the screen. It lends it a calmer feel, which is its *raison d'être*.

While it's hard to imagine legions of new devotees flocking to the RX, it does have its virtues. Its updated appearance keeps it fresh, and an updated technology package is hard to resist. It's for those who aren't in the biggest hurry, but crave the coddling and quiet that Lexus is so adept at.

NUTS & BOLTS

2022 Lexus RX 350

- Base price: \$49,000 (estimated)
- Engine: Turbocharged 2.4-liter four-cylinder
- Horsepower/Torque: 246/233 pound-feet
- EPA fuel economy (city/highway): 21/28 mpg
- Length/Width/Height: 192.5/75.6/67.3 inches
- Ground clearance: 8 inches
- Cargo capacity: 29.6-46.1 cubic feet
- Towing capacity: 3,494 pounds

Updated LEXUS RX

is a plush tourer for those not in a hurry

LEXUS/TNS
The 2023 Lexus RX has a 2.5-liter turbocharged four-cylinder engine and eight-speed automatic transmission.



What became of emergency brakes?

Q: What became of emergency brakes on cars? Can the parking brake be used in an emergency?

A: Originally, the service brakes were applied using a lever and cables. Eventually, hydraulic brakes operating brake shoes inside brake drums made the brakes easier to modulate. The lever that hung around in case those old hydraulic brakes faded or failed could be used to eventually stop the car. No more. It has morphed into the parking brake. The parking brake is essentially useless for emergency applications. You can't rely on it to stop the vehicle.

■■■

Q: I have a 2014 Honda Accord with 120,000 miles on it. Recently I had several warning lights come on: BRAKE, ABS, VSA. In looking in my manual, it states that

all are associated with the braking system. The problem is that they come and go, and the car runs fine all the time. When I asked about this at my local Honda dealer, I was told the lights must be on for them to check. I can't predict when the lights will be on and make an appointment. My question is: Is there a common sending unit associated with these warning lights?

A: VSA, which stands for Vehicle Stability Assist, helps handling during cornering by reducing understeer or oversteer. It also aids traction when launching, especially if the surface is slippery. The ABS system applies the brakes to individual wheels and the VSA is an offshoot of the ABS. They are definitely related. A faulty ABS sensor is most likely the problem.

■■■

Q: We have a 2019 Acura RDX that had 15,029 miles on it when we bought it from an Acura dealer in June of 2020. We are retired and love to travel by car and have put on just over 20,000 miles in the last year. I am a stickler on car maintenance and have a question on what the Acura dealer was recommending when we did the oil change last March, when we had just over 30,000 miles. They would like to do a brake fluid flush, but I think it's more of a 50,000-mile requirement. I should mention we live in Las Vegas, so we deal with hot weather when we are not traveling.

A: I get similar questions about add-on services every week. Carmakers use proving grounds to test their vehicles in climates from blazing hot to bone-numbing cold. The

auto manufacturers devise service intervals to keep their cars running and their customers happy. Unless the owner's manual states otherwise, for instance for severe use, follow the schedule.

■■■

Q: I own a 2001 BMW Z3 Roadster. Recently someone tampered with the gas cap while it was parked in a parking lot. The gas cap is original, and the person who tampered with it broke the tethering piece that attaches the cap to the car. I have tried to find a locking gas cap for the car to no avail. Are you aware of any locking gas cap that would fit my car?

A: Do you really need a locking cap? After all, you have driven the car for over 20 years without incident. Perhaps the tether just broke from age. Just be careful not to let the untethered cap sit on the gas pump or car fender when

MOTORMOUTH By BOB WEBER Chicago Tribune



Bob Weber is a writer and mechanic who became an ASE-certified Master Automobile Technician in 1976. He maintains this status by seeking certification every five years. Weber's work appears in professional trade magazines and other consumer publications. His writing also appears in automotive trade publications, Consumer Guide and Consumers Digest. Send questions along with name and town to Motormouth, Rides, Chicago Tribune, 160 N. Stetson Ave., Fourth Floor, Chicago, IL 60601 or motormouth.tribune@gmail.com.

you drive off or you really will need a new one.

■■■

Q: My 2021 Honda CR-V has the automatic shut-off feature when you fully press the brake. When I remember, I disable it because I feel like it adds unnecessary wear and tear to an engine and starter. My husband wants to find the fuse to permanently disable

it. What do you think about this feature? Is it really fuel efficient, and does it add wear and tear on the car?

A: I am ambivalent regarding the engine stop feature. It doesn't annoy me, and it does not cause undue wear on the mechanicals. Although it doesn't significantly improve fuel economy, every little bit helps. If it helps reduce climate change, I'm all in.

Life & Style

Rihanna to headline the next Super Bowl halftime show

NEW YORK (AP)—Rihanna will take center stage at February's Super Bowl halftime show.

The singer, who declined to perform in the 2019 Super Bowl halftime show out of solidarity with Colin Kaepernick, will headline the 2023 Super Bowl, the NFL announced Sunday along with Jay-Z's Roc Nation and Apple Music. Rihanna posted an image on Instagram of an arm outstretched holding an NFL football.

"Rihanna is a generational talent, a woman of humble beginnings who has surpassed expectations at every turn," said Jay-Z, whose Roc Nation is an executive producer of the show, in a statement. "A person born on the small island of Barbados who became one of the most prominent artists ever. Self-made in business



Rihanna

and entertainment."

The Super Bowl will take place at State Farm Stadium in Glendale, Arizona, on Feb. 12. After years of Pepsi's sponsorship, the upcoming halftime show will be sponsored by Apple Music.

Rihanna earlier said she turned down a similar opportunity for the 2019 Super Bowl

that was ultimately headlined by Maroon 5. At the time, many artists voiced support for Kaepernick, the former San Francisco 49ers quarterback who protested police brutality against Black people and minorities by kneeling during the national anthem in 2016.

"I couldn't dare do that. For what?" Rihanna told Vogue in 2019. "Who gains from that? Not my people. I just couldn't be a sellout. I couldn't be an enabler. There's things within

that organization that I do not agree with at all, and I was not about to go and be of service to them in any way," she said of the league.

Kaepernick accused the NFL of colluding to keep him out of the league in a case that was eventually settled in early 2019.

In 2019, the NFL partnered with Roc Nation (which manages Rihanna) to help pick performers for the Super Bowl and strategize on the halftime show. The widely acclaimed 2022

halftime show featured Dr. Dre, Snoop Dogg, Eminem, Kendrick Lamar and Mary J. Blige.

With sales of more than 250 million records worldwide, Rihanna ranks as one of the best-selling female artists ever. Her last album was 2016's "Anti." Rihanna last performed publicly at the Grammy Awards in 2018.

In the years since, Rihanna has occasionally teased her music return. Earlier this year, she had her first child with the rapper ASAP Rocky.

Book shows personal side of 'Mockingbird' author Harper Lee

HOMEWOOD, Ala. (AP)—To the world, Harper Lee was aloof to the point of being unknowable, an obsessively private person who spent most of her life avoiding the public gaze despite writing one of the best-selling books ever, "To Kill a Mockingbird." To Wayne Flynt, the Alabama-born author was his friend, Nelle.

Flynt, a longtime Southern

historian who became close friends with Nelle Harper Lee late in her life, has written his second book about the author, "Afternoons with Harper Lee," which was released Thursday with Flynt signing copies at a bookstore in suburban Birmingham.

Based on Flynt's notes from dozens of visits with Lee over a decade before her death in

2016, the book is like sitting on a porch and hearing tales of Lee's childhood and family in rural Alabama, her later life in New York and everything in between. That includes the time a grandfather who fought for the Confederacy survived the Battle of Gettysburg despite heavy losses to his Alabama unit, according to Flynt.

"I told her, 'You know, half

the 15th of Alabama was either killed or wounded or captured, and he got away? Is that just luck or the providence of God? What in the world is that?'" Flynt said in an interview with The Associated Press.

"And she said, 'No, it's not the providence of God. He could run fast.'"

The public perception of Lee as a hermit is wrong, Flynt, a former history professor at Auburn University, said. No, she

didn't do media interviews and she guarded her privacy zealously, but she also was warm and kind to friends that included a former first lady, Lady Bird Johnson, Flynt said. And Lee was "deeply religious" in a way many people aren't, he said.

"It's an attempt to tell the story of the authentic woman, not the marble lady," Flynt said.

The book also is a tribute to Flynt's late wife Dartie, who died in 2020. Lee, who suffered a stroke in 2007, seemed to identify with the physical tra-

vails of Dartie Flynt, who had Parkinson's disease, Flynt said.

"I think she tolerated me because she loved Dartie," he said.

Born in 1926 when the South was still racially segregated by law, Lee grew up in the south Alabama town of Monroeville, the daughter of a lawyer who served as a model for attorney Atticus Finch in "To Kill a Mockingbird," a story of race, injustice and the law during the Jim Crow era. The town itself became Maycomb, the book's setting.

'Don't Worry Darling' shrugs off drama, opening with \$19.2M

By **JAKE COYLE**
AP FILM WRITER

After off-screen drama threatened to consume Olivia Wilde's "Don't Worry Darling," the Warner Bros. release opened No. 1 at the box office, debuting with \$19.2 million in ticket sales, according to studio estimates Sunday.

Starring Florence Pugh and Harry Styles, "Don't Worry Darling" was engulfed by a storm of controversies that revolved around everything from Pugh's allegedly strained relationship with Wilde to whether Styles might have

even spit on co-star Chris Pine at the film's Venice Film Festival premiere. (Styles denied it.) The movie, too, was torched by critics (38% fresh on Rotten Tomatoes) and arrived in theaters with more baggage than any recent release.

For an original film that cost \$35 million to make, a \$19.2 million launch was solid—and slightly more than the studio had forecast. A large number of moviegoers—including plenty of Styles fans—turned up to see what all the fuss was about.

But the release of "Don't

Worry Darling," playing in 4,113 theaters, was also no home run. Audiences gave it a B- CinemaScore, and ticket buyers fell off on Saturday after more promising results on Thursday and Friday. Warner Bros. said the audience was 66% female. The film added \$10.8 million internationally.

Jeff Goldstein, distribution chief for Warner Bros., estimated that "the background noise had a neutral impact." The studio, he said, was "pleased with these results given our modest production budget."

Post Malone, experiencing 'stabbing pain,' postpones show

BOSTON (AP)—Post Malone went to the hospital again Saturday after experiencing what he described on social media as difficulty breathing and stabbing pain, forcing him to postpone a scheduled show in Boston.

It was the second time in about a week that he went to the hospital. He was treated for bruised ribs after falling into a hole on stage at the Enterprise Center in St. Louis last weekend.

"On tour, I usually wake up around 4 o'clock PM, and today I woke up to a cracking sounds on the right side of my body," he wrote on Twitter on Saturday. "I felt so good last night, but today it felt so different than it has before. I'm having a very difficult time breathing and there's like a stabbing pain whenever I breathe or move."

He pledged to reschedule the show.

"I love y'all so much. I feel

terrible, but I promise I'm going to make this up to you. I love you Boston, I'll see you soon," wrote the singer, whose real name is Austin Richard Post.

The venue, TD Garden, said in a tweet that the show was "postponed due to unforeseen circumstances" and tickets for Saturday's show would be honored for a rescheduled date.

Malone is scheduled to perform in Cleveland on Tuesday.

Woman can't get her husband to the church on time

DEAR ABBY: Punctuality is important to me. My husband has many great qualities, but punctuality is not one of them. We have been married 20-plus years and, after many discussions, have not been able to come to agreement on this. We are late to church almost every Sunday and to most parties and family events.

I think it's rude to keep people waiting, and it gives me anxiety. I have tried taking separate cars but think, as a couple, we should arrive together. It seems like when I try to urge him to hurry, he purposely slows down. It has reached the point where we are angry at each other by the time we finally arrive anywhere. Any advice?

HARE MARRIED TO TORTOISE

DEAR HARE: Yes. Take the separate cars. No one cares whether you arrive "together" or not, unless you are going to a dinner party. And if your husband will be late for that, assure your hosts that it isn't necessary to wait for him to arrive. To the extent you can, try fudging the event time. But until he suffers the consequences, his behavior will not change.

■■■■

DEAR ABBY: My fiancée has been married twice and insists on maintaining contact with four prior sexual partners (other than husbands). Most of the contact is by Facebook, instant message and cellphone. But one former partner is a high school classmate she sees every year at class "get-togethers."

I think what she's doing is inappropriate and will certainly be so after we are married. She insists they are just "friends" and I am being immature and "untrusting." She's adamant that she is unwilling to cease contact with these former sexual partners (now friends) under any circumstances. What's a guy to do?

CROWDED IN FLORIDA

DEAR CROWDED: A "guy" either accepts what his fiancée is telling him — that these old flames are just friends now—or he terminates the engagement and starts searching for a woman he believes he CAN trust.

■■■■

DEAR ABBY: My husband and I have been good friends with another couple for more than a decade. The wife has a degenerative illness and is now paralyzed and unable to feed herself. We would love to stay close with them while recognizing the problems they face in planning meetings. Now, at our infrequent get-togethers, it always ends with "we should get together," but then no plans are realized.

I know there's intense pressure on the husband between work, care of their teenage child and health care for his wife. How can we tactfully stay in touch, and at the same time relieve some of the pressure on the husband? I'd love to set up a bimonthly coffee or lunch, but I realize some days, the wife may not be up for it. -

GOOD FRIEND IN MARYLAND

DEAR ABBY

By **ABIGAIL VAN BUREN**
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.



DEAR FRIEND: You ARE a good friend, and a caring one. Every caregiver needs an occasional break so he or she can recharge.

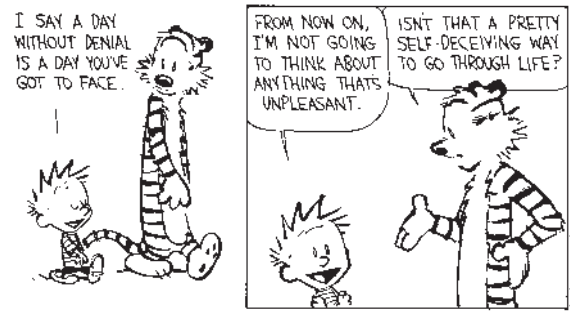
It would be a kindness to call him and offer to be with his wife for a few hours so he can spend some time doing things for himself that he may have postponed. I can't promise that he'll take you up on it, but he may.

■■■■

Good advice for everyone — teens to seniors — is in "The Anger in All of Us and How to Deal With It." To order, send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$8 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Anger Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

Pastimes

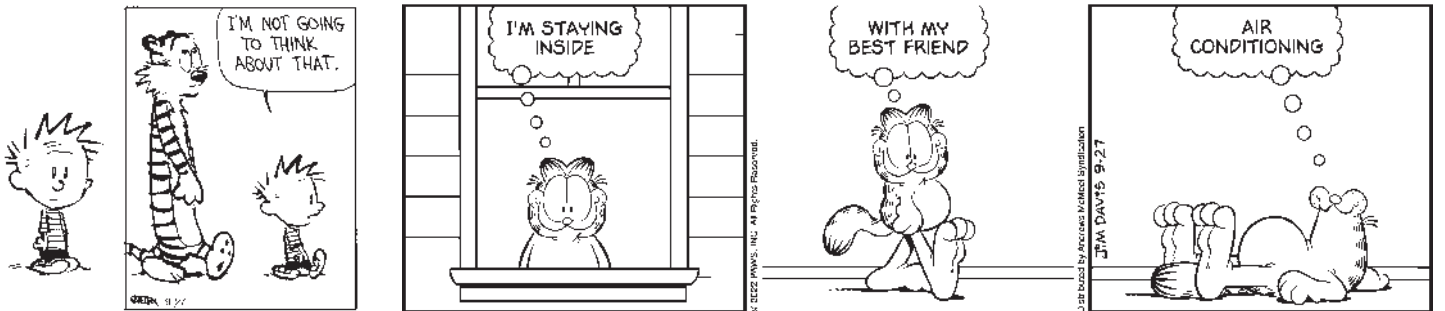
Calvin and Hobbes



By Bill Waterson

Garfield®

By Jim Davis

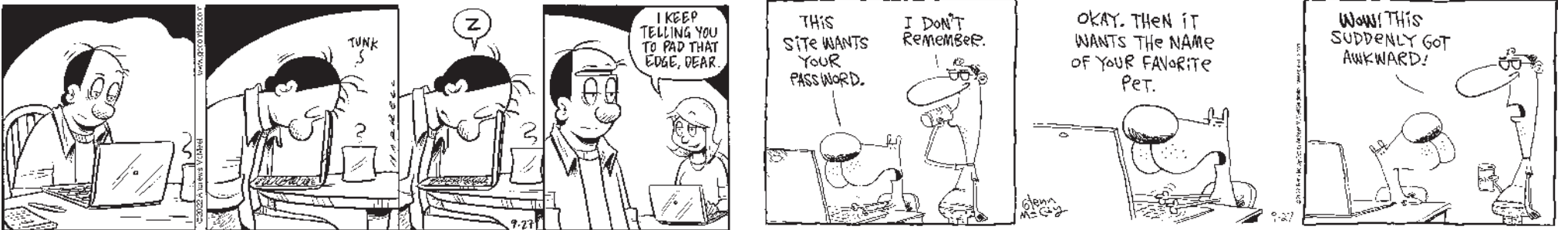


Adam@home

By Bryan Basset

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

1 Dandies
5 Patient's need, briefly
8 Small town
12 "Yeah, right!"
13 Brazilian city
14 Screenwriter James
15 Buyer's offer
17 "Pinocchio" fish
18 Six, in Milan
19 Devoured
20 Dexterity
21 "See ya!"
22 Knock
23 Apiary homes
26 Business magnates
30 "Shake —!" ("Hurry!")
31 Singer Carly — Jepsen
32 Aussie hoppers
33 Lend a hand
35 Composer Joplin

DOWN

1 Little lies
2 Theater award
3 Mani counter-part
4 NASCAR sponsor
5 Banal
6 Grown-up nits
7 Iowa college
8 Rear veranda
9 Hybrid fruit
10 Stagger
11 Earth sci.
16 Light beams
20 Pouch symbols
21 "Excuse me?"
22 Deli bread
23 "So there!"
24 — de-France
25 Speed (Abbr.)
26 Make lace
27 Tic-tac-toe win
28 "— so fast!"
29 Retired jet
31 Barbecue coating
34 World Cup cheer
35 Stated
37 Pul-sates
38 Wanders
39 Send forth
40 Jazz singer Simone
41 Baby carriage
42 Scrabble piece
43 Slanted type (Abbr.)
44 Ocular woe
46 Crunchy sandwich
47 Soup cooker

Solution time: 22 mins.

Yesterday's answer 9-27

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12				13			14			
15			16				17			
18			19				20			
		21				22				
23	24	25			26		27	28	29	
30			31				32			
33			34				35			
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38	39	40			41		42	43	44	
45				46			47			
48				49			50			
51				52			53			

STUMPED?

For answers to today's crossword, call 1-800-226-5955! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Lola Kirke, 32; Anna Camp, 40; Tamara Taylor, 52; Scott Lawrence, 59.

Happy Birthday: Play to win. Put a strategy in place that will help you turn something you aren't happy with into something that brings you joy. Take responsibility for your happiness, and throw your time and effort into self-improvement and satisfaction. Loving who you are and what you can do will lead to a positive attitude and a year of progress. Your numbers are 4, 19, 26, 27, 34, 43, 48.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Agreeing to something for the wrong reason will create inner turmoil. Ponder over offers, suggestions and consequences before you get involved in something that's asking too much of you. Rethink your goal and change your course if necessary. ***

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Put your heart and soul into professional responsibilities, and be the one to make a positive change or difference to the outcome of an urgent situation. Share your ideas, and take charge of getting things done on time. Personal gain looks promising. ***

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Underlying anger can ruin your day and plans. Channeling your angst into something concrete will alleviate stress. Give others a chance to fix a mistake before you say something derogatory. Take a positive, helpful approach and avoid turmoil. ***

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Pursue your dreams, speak up, follow through and finish what you start. It's up to you to put your plans in motion. Don't wait around

for someone to pick up the slack. You'll find it difficult to dodge controversy. **

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Surf the internet for answers, suggestions, and old friends and colleagues. Reconnecting with someone like-minded will lead to something new and exciting. Find out all you can, and you will find a positive way to use this information. ****

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Initiate a change that makes you feel good and encourages you to do more for others. Stay focused on what's important, and don't lose sight of what's happening in your personal life. Be inquisitive and ask questions instead of getting angry. ***

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Take the high road. Let your conscience lead you down a path that offers solitude and peace of mind. Put muscle behind your concerns, and be the one to make a difference. Clear a space conducive to putting in long hours. ***

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Put your energy into accumulating what's important to you. Building a secure home base and getting your finances in order will give you peace of mind and the confidence to discuss your intentions. A unique proposal will lead to a helpful contribution. ***

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Take a rain check if you don't like a proposal. Research will uncover information that will help you tilt a current situation in your favor. Mingle and align yourself with people who can help improve your connections and prospects. ****

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green

		3	1		4					
	6						2	8		
	2				8				3	
3		2	6		1				8	
				8						
5			9		2	6			1	
2			4					3		
	7	5						1		
			2		5	7				

Difficulty Level ★★

9/27

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Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday Answer

9	6	2	8	5	1	3	4	7
5	1	7	2	4	3	6	8	9
8	4	3	6	9	7	1	2	5
2	5	4	9	1	6	7	3	8
3	9	6	7	8	2	4	5	1
7	8	1	5	3	4	2	9	6
6	3	5	4	7	8	9	1	2
1	2	9	3	6	5	8	7	4
4	7	8	1	2	9	5	6	3

Difficulty Level ★

WONDERWORD

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the WONDERWORD.

KOWLOON WALL CITY

Solution: 8 letters

C J G N I X I U K I N G D O M
B H I R E S I D E N T S S U I
D R I A T T N A S T H A N D L
I E I N N O C N P O L I C E I
S N E T E G O A N T T N H N T
A C E V I S N E F E D G I R A
S L T P A S E A D I M A U E R
T A S E M O H F N G T A V Y
E V S A R M I A L C E R Y O U
R E N R G R G A T E K D A G K
E S E L E N A R A I D S O N T
V N T S E V I C T I O N F U O
E E T P A R K Q E N N O M N
L D A L O O H C S N E D P A G
S D P G S E I T I U Q I T N A

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Antiquities, Artifact, British, China, Chinese, Dapeng, Defensive, Dense, Disaster, Enclave, Eviction, Fire, Fort, Gardens, Gate, Guards, Homes, Jiangnan, Kingdom, Kuixing, Military, Moon, Park, Patten, Pearls, Police, Qing, Raids, Reclaim, Residents, Revels, Salt, Scents, School, Seasons, Terrace, Tsan, Ungoverned, United, Yamen, Yuk Tong
Yesterday's Answer: Comfort
To purchase THE COLLECTED WONDERWORD, Volumes 56 through 69, order online at www.WonderWordBooks.com.

Dolphins stuff Bills, Allen late, hold on for 21-19 win



MIAMI GARDENS, Fla. (AP)—The Miami Dolphins' defense stopped

Josh Allen and the Bills at the goal line late, then held again after punter Thomas Morstead bizarrely kicked the ball off a teammate and out of bounds for a safety in a 21-19 win over Buffalo on Sunday.

Tua Tagovailoa and the Dolphins improved to 3-0 in an AFC East thriller that ended with Allen and the Bills attempting to spike the ball near midfield, the clock just running out on their chance to try a long-distance, go-ahead field goal.

Tagovailoa briefly left the game in the second quarter, returning after halftime despite appearing to be disoriented by a head injury.

Miami took a 21-17 lead with about 10 minutes left in the game on Chase Edmonds' 3-yard run. It was the Bills' first deficit of the season.

Despite being sacked and flagged for unnecessary roughness on the next drive, Allen drove Buffalo down the field with a 17-play, eight-minute drive. Miami's defense held, though, nearly intercepting a pass and forcing a turnover on downs from the 2-yard line.

Tagovailoa and the Dolphins went three-and-out, leaving little room for Morstead to try punting out of the end zone. His kick hit blocker Trent Sherfield in the backside and caromed out of bounds.

Allen guided Buffalo (2-1) into field goal range, but the Bills ran out of time.

Allen was 42 of 63 and passed for 400 yards after completing his first 11 passes for the first time in his career. He had touchdown passes to running back Devin Singletary and receiver Isaiah McKenzie.

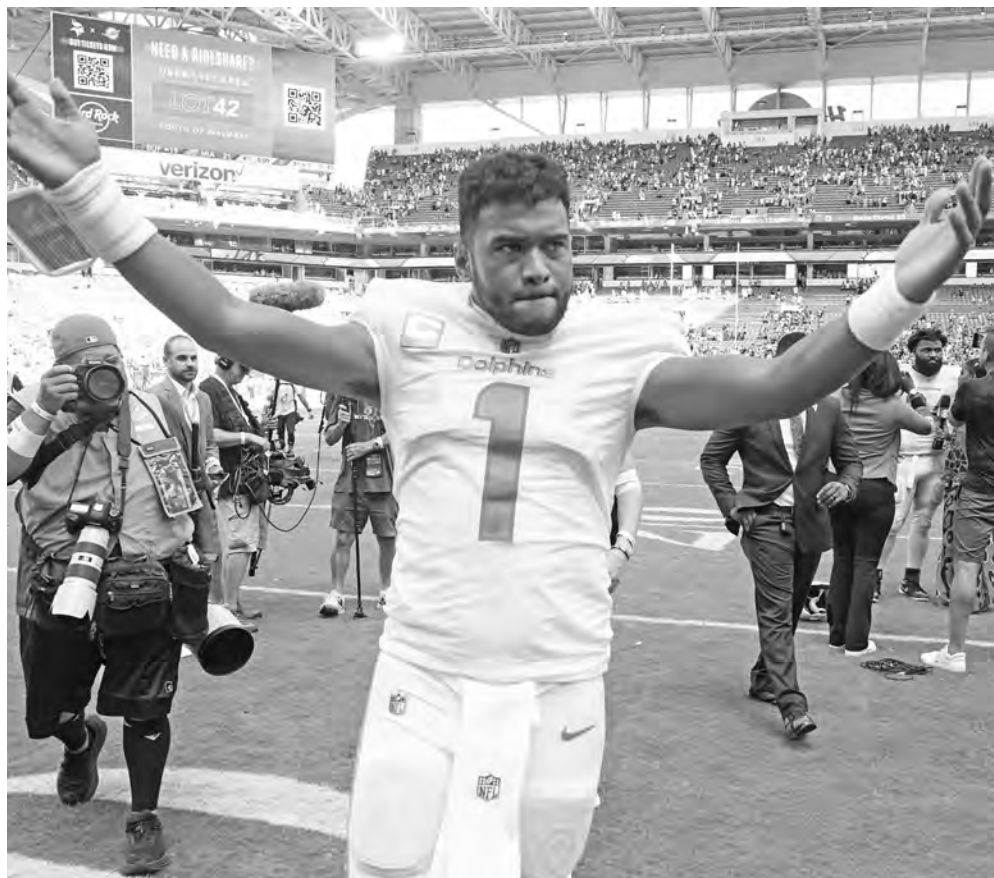
Packers 14, Buccaneers 12

In Tampa, Fla., Aaron Rodgers threw for 255 yards and two touchdowns, and Green Bay withstood a late rally led by Tom Brady to beat Tampa Bay.

Rodgers tossed TD passes of 5 yards to Romeo Doubs and 6 yards to Allen Lazard on his team's first two possessions, while the Bucs' offense sputtered much of the day without star receivers Mike Evans, Chris Godwin and Julio Jones.

For the second straight week, the Bucs (2-1) were held without a touchdown into the fourth quarter. Brady finally got them into the end zone on a 1-yard pass to Russell Gage, capping a 90-yard drive with 14 seconds remaining.

Tampa Bay's bid to force



Miami Dolphins quarterback Tua Tagovailoa (1) gestures to fans at the end of an NFL football game against the Buffalo Bills, Sunday, Sept. 25, 2022, in Miami Gardens, Fla. AP

overtime with a 2-point conversion was thwarted, first by a delay-of-game penalty and then an incomplete pass that allowed the Packers (2-1) to beat Brady for the first time in three tries since the seven-time Super Bowl champion joined the Bucs in 2020.

Ravens 37, Patriots 28

In Foxborough, Mass., Lamar Jackson threw four touchdown passes and ran for another score as Baltimore held off New England.

New England's Mac Jones suffered a leg injury with less than two minutes to play, hopping off the field and heading straight to the locker room. He completed 22 of 32 passes for 321 yards but threw three interceptions.

Justin Tucker kicked a 56-yard field goal, the 50th of his career from 50 yards or more, as Baltimore (2-1) claimed its first regular-season victory at New England in seven tries.

Despite being under pressure for most of the day and losing another member of his offensive line to an early injury, Jackson completed 18 of 29 passes for 218 yards with an interception.

Vikings 28, Lions 24

In Minneapolis, Kirk Cousins connected with a wide-open K.J. Osborn for the go-ahead, 28-yard touchdown with 45 seconds remaining, and Minnesota rallied past Detroit.

Osborn blew by former Vikings cornerback Mike Hughes on a corner route to snag the in-stride pass and cruise across the goal line to give Minnesota (2-1) the lead for the first time.

The Vikings then didn't

let Jared Goff and the Lions cross midfield.

Dalvin Cook rushed for 96 yards and a score before leaving with a shoulder injury for the Vikings, who fell behind 14-0 and 24-14.

Colts 20, Chiefs 17

In Indianapolis, Matt Ryan threw a 12-yard touchdown pass to rookie Jelani Woods with 24 seconds left to give Indianapolis the comeback win over Kansas City.

Ryan earned his first win with the Colts in their home opener by hooking up with Woods for both Indianapolis touchdowns, one week after they were shut out at Jacksonville.

It took a 16-play, 76-yard drive — aided by a personal foul call on Chiefs defensive tackle Chris Jones following a third-down sack — for Indy (1-1-1) to snap a four-game winless streak.

The Colts sealed it with Rodney McLeod Jr.'s interception with 2 seconds to play.

Panthers 22, Saints 14

In Charlotte, N.C., Laviska Shenault caught a 67-yard touchdown pass from Baker Mayfield, Marquis Haynes returned a fumble 44 yards for a touchdown and Carolina beat New Orleans to snap a nine-game losing streak.

Mayfield threw for 170 yards and Christian McCaffrey ran for 108 as the Panthers (1-2) won at home for the first time since beating the Saints 26-7 on Sept. 19, 2021.

Jameis Winston, playing with an injured back, completed 25 of 41 passes for 353 yards with a touchdown and two interceptions, while

rookie Chris Olave had nine catches for 147 yards for a Saints wide receiver corps that lost Michael Thomas, Jarvis Landry and Tre'Quan Smith to injuries in the second half.

Carolina's defense held Winston and the Saints (1-2) scoreless for three quarters before Mark Ingram cut the lead to 13-7 with a 5-yard TD run.

Broncos 11, 49ers 10

In Denver, Melvin Gordon atoned for two fumbles with a late 1-yard touchdown run and safety Kareem Jackson recovered Jeff Wilson Jr.'s fumble with 1:05 left to preserve Denver's win over San Francisco.

Russell Wilson and the Broncos (2-1) won despite going three-and-out nine times. Their only sustained drive was a 12-play, 80-yarder that included a 12-yard scramble by Wilson. Gordon capped it with a 1-yard run with 4:10 remaining, but Wilson's 2-point pass was batted down, leaving the Broncos clinging to a one-point lead.

Jimmy Garoppolo, in his first start for the injured Trey Lance, who broke an ankle in Week 2, drove the 49ers (1-2) to midfield but his pass to Deebo Samuel was tipped by Jackson and intercepted by linebacker Jonas Griffith at the Denver 42 just before the 2-minute warning.

Eagles 24, Commanders 8

In Landover, Md., DeVonta Smith caught eight passes from Jalen Hurts for a career-high 169 yards and a touchdown, Carson Wentz flopped in his first game against the team that drafted him and Philadelphia routed Washington.

Smith made acrobatic catches along the sideline and to the edge of the end zone for respective gains of 45 and 44 yards, and hauled in a TD pass on fourth down to end the first half with no time left on the clock.

His 156 yards were the most by an Eagles player in a half since Kevin Curtis in 2007. And Smith was just one part of another clinical offensive performance by Philadelphia (3-0).

Hurts was 22 of 35 for 340 yards and three touchdown passes, one each to Smith, A.J. Brown and Dallas Goedert.

Titans 24, Raiders 22

In Nashville, Tenn., Ryan Tannehill threw for 264 yards and a touchdown and ran for another score and Tennessee never trailed against Las Vegas.

Derrick Henry ran for 85 yards and a touchdown. Henry added 58 yards receiving as the Titans (1-2) avoided their worst start since they went 0-6 in 2009.

The Raiders (0-3) are off to their worst start since 2018. Two-time All-Pro safety Kevin Byard celebrated his 100th regular-season game by picking off a pass by Derek Carr in the end zone with 9:22 left.

Trailing 24-16, the Raiders converted a fourth-and-15 and a fourth-and-10 to keep their final drive alive. Carr then hit Mack Hollins with a 9-yard TD pass on fourth-and-goal from the Titans 9. But Carr's 2-point conversion pass to tie the game was broken up by linebacker Dylan Cole.

Rams 20, Cardinals 12

In Glendale, Ariz., Matthew Stafford threw for 249 yards, Cam Akers and Cooper Kupp both scored touchdowns and Los Angeles used a stellar defensive effort to beat Arizona.

The Rams (2-1) continued their dominance in the series of NFC West rivals, winning 11 of the past 12 games dating to 2017, including last year's 34-11 win in the playoffs.

Aaron Donald had a sack and two tackles for loss while Jalen Ramsey added two passes defended and a tackle for loss. The Rams gave up 365 total yards but limited the Cardinals (1-2) to four field goals.

Jaguars 38, Chargers 10

In Inglewood, Calif., Trevor Lawrence threw for 262 yards and three touchdowns, James Robinson rushed for 100 yards and a TD and Jacksonville beat ailing Justin Herbert and Los Angeles.

The Jaguars snapped an 18-game road losing streak, which was tied for the eighth-longest in league history. The

Jags won in the Pacific time zone for the fourth time in 19 trips and beat the Bolts on the road for the first time in six tries.

Herbert started after being listed as questionable all week with a rib injury. The third-year quarterback passed for 297 yards but turned it over twice, finishing 25 of 45 with a touchdown.

Riley Patterson kicked three field goals as the Jaguars (2-1) went over the 30-point mark for the first time since Week 2 of the 2020 season.

Falcons 27, Seahawks 23

In Seattle, Cordarrelle Patterson rushed for a career-high 141 yards and a touchdown, Marcus Mariota threw a 14-yard TD to rookie Drake London in the second half, and Atlanta beat Seattle.

Patterson rumbled for 107 yards in the second half and the Falcons (1-2) avoided their second 0-3 start in three seasons. His 17-yard touchdown run in the second quarter gave Atlanta a 17-10 lead.

Mariota was 13 of 20 passing for 223 yards and his touchdown throw to London in the closing seconds of the third quarter gave Atlanta the lead for good.

Bengals 27, Jets 12

In East Rutherford, N.J., Joe Burrow threw three touchdown passes and Cincinnati rolled past New York for its first win of the season.

After a pair of three-point losses, the Bengals (1-2) came out aggressive against the Jets, who fell flat after a stunning comeback win last week at Cleveland.

Burrow finished 23 of 36 for 275 yards with TD throws to Samaje Perine, Tyler Boyd and Ja'Marr Chase.

Bears 23, Texans 20

In Chicago, Roquan Smith set up Cairo Santos' game-ending field goal when he intercepted Davis Mills deep in Houston territory, and Chicago beat former coach Lovie Smith and Houston.

Khalil Herbert ran for a career-high 157 yards and two touchdowns for Chicago.

The Texans had third-and-1 at their 26 when defensive tackle Angelo Blackson tipped a pass intended for Rex Burkhead. Smith intercepted it at the 30 and returned it to the 12.

Chicago (2-1) had Herbert run, then downed the ball twice before Santos nailed a 30-yarder as time expired.

Justin Fields had another difficult game, and Bears running back David Montgomery exited early with knee and ankle injuries.

Chisox eliminated in AL Central, 6th loss in row; Tigers win



CHICAGO

(AP)—Dylan Cease pitched six scoreless innings, but the White Sox bullpen got tagged and Chicago was eliminated in the AL Central with a 4-1 loss to the Detroit Tigers on Sunday.

Jonathan Schoop hit a tie-breaking single in the eighth and Chicago's sixth straight loss clinched the division for Cleveland. The Guardians held a big lead in the ninth at Texas when the clinching became official, and they held on for a 10-4 victory.

The White Sox, who won the AL Central last season in their first year under manager Tony La Russa, slipped to 76-77. La Russa hasn't run the team since August because of a medical issue, and Miguel Cairo has been the acting manager.

"Today was the worst one," Cairo said. "Today was, that's not acceptable. That's not baseball. That's not what the Chicago White Sox are about. It was terrible."

Andrew Chafin (2-3) pitched a scoreless inning for Detroit. Gregory Soto got his 28th save.

Schoop singled off Kendall Graveman (3-4) for a 2-1 lead. Jeimer Candelario added an RBI single and another run scored on a wild pitch.

Cease, a Cy Young Award candidate, allowed four hits, struck out five and walked three. He is 14-7 and lowered his ERA to 2.06, second best in the majors to Houston's Justin Verlander at 1.82.

Yoán Moncada homered for Chicago.

Tigers center fielder Riley Greene made a pair of highlight catches. He denied Andrew Vaughn of a homer with a leaping grab over the wall in the fourth.

"Once I hit the track, I knew I was going to have to get up there," Greene said. "I jumped and kind of said a prayer and threw my glove up."

Greene also took an extra-base hit away from Adam Engel with a running catch before banging into the wall in the third.

Harold Castro had three hits for the last-place Tigers, who have won five of six and finished 7-12 against Chicago.

"Obviously, a great trip, best trip of the year," Detroit manager A.J. Hinch said. "We win the series in Baltimore while they're fighting for something. We sweep the White Sox when they're fighting for something."

Castro hit a ground-rule double off Cease with two outs in the first when a security guard down the right-field line attempted to field the ball, which bounced off his glove.

Victor Reyes doubled off White Sox reliever Reynaldo Lopez to tie it at 1 in the seventh.

"You got to come back Tuesday (against Minnesota)," Cairo said. "They are all playing, Tuesday until the last game. So they better bring some effort. It was kind of embarrassing."

Moncada homered on Tyler Alexander's first pitch in the fourth for a 1-0 lead, ending Alexander's streak of 10 consecutive scoreless innings.

Cease escaped bases-loaded jams twice. Javier Báez fouled out to the catcher on Cease's first pitch to end the fifth after a double and two walks.

Guardians 10, Rangers 4

In Arlington, Texas, Cleveland has another new name this year: AL Central champions. Four of rookie Steven Kwan's career-high five RBIs came on his first career grand slam in the eighth inning and Aaron Civale allowed two runs on three hits in five innings.

They clinched the division title about 15 minutes before their game ended, when the second-place Chicago White Sox lost to Detroit.

Royals 13, Mariners 12

In Kansas City, Mo., Luis Castillo, fresh off signing a rich contract with Seattle, got chased as Kansas City erupted for 11 runs in the sixth inning and a wild, win that cost the Mariners a chance to move up in the AL wild-card standings.

Astros 6, Orioles 3, 11 innings

In Baltimore: Christian Vazquez hit a bases-loaded single to cap a four-run 11th inning for Houston. The Orioles' postseason hopes took another blow, missing a chance to move up in the AL wild-card standings.

Angels 10, Twins 3

In Minneapolis, Mike Trout had three hits, including his 37th homer of the season, and Los Angeles beat Minnesota. Trout also doubled twice, walked and scored three runs.

Blue Jays 7, Rays 1

In St. Petersburg, Fla., George Springer homered twice, Alejandro Kirk and Teoscar Hernández also went deep and Toronto earned a split of the four-game series.

Toronto (86-67) opened a two-game lead over Tampa Bay (84-69) for the top wild card with nine games left. Seattle (83-68) a half-game behind the Rays.



Detroit Tigers center fielder Riley Greene (31) catches a ball hit by Chicago White Sox's Andrew Vaughn during the fourth inning of a baseball game Sunday, Sept. 25, 2022, in Chicago.

Braves 8, Phillies 7, 11 innings

In Philadelphia, Ronald Acuña singled home the go-ahead run in the 11th inning and Atlanta stayed close in the NL East race. The Braves split the four-game series and remained 1 1/2 games behind the division-leading New York Mets.

Giants 3, Diamondbacks 2

In Phoenix, pinch-hitter Evan Longoria had a go-ahead,

two-run single in the eighth inning to lead San Francisco.

Reds 2, Brewers 1

In Cincinnati, Spencer Steer hit a go-ahead home run in the eighth, and Nick Lodolo pitched six strong innings to lead Cincinnati. Hunter Renfroe homered for the Brewers, who were unable to complete their first four-game sweep of the Reds since 2003.

Dodgers 4, Cardinals 1

In Los Angeles, Will Smith had

two hits and Michael Grove pitched five solid innings to pick up his first career victory as Los Angeles clinched the No. 1 overall seed in the National League. Two days after reaching 700 home runs, Cardinals slugger Albert Pujols received a standing ovation when he was announced as a pinch-hitter in the ninth inning and struck out.

Cubs 8, Pirates 3

In Pittsburgh, Patrick Wisdom hit a three-run homer, Adrian

Sampson tossed six efficient innings and Chicago beat Pittsburgh. Wisdom took the first pitch he saw from reliever Manny Báñuelos and sent it into the Pirates bullpen well behind the center-field wall with two outs in the fifth. Wisdom became the fourth Cubs third baseman to reach the 25 home run-plateau in multiple seasons, joining Hall of Famer Ron Santo, Aramis Ramirez and Kris Bryant.

Nationals 6, Marlins 1

In Miami, Aníbal Sánchez threw five scoreless innings and Washington beat Miami hours after the Marlins announced manager Don Mattingly won't be back next season.

Padres 13, Rockies 6

In Denver, Manny Machado and Brandon Drury hit back-to-back home runs in a five-run eighth inning, Wil Myers also went deep, and San Diego beat Colorado.

Mets 13, Athletics 4

In Oakland, Calif., Pete Alonso homered, doubled and drove in five runs, Max Scherzer pitched six sharp innings and New York held its NL East lead. The Mets remained 1 1/2 games ahead of Atlanta. New York has won eight of 10, and plays the Braves on the road next weekend in a three-game series.

Retired Federer offers advice to Laver Cup teammates

LONDON (AP)—Roger Federer's tearful farewell to his playing career is over. True to his word, the 20-time Grand Slam champion did not say goodbye for good to tennis.

A day after heading into retirement with a Laver Cup doubles match alongside long-time rival Rafaal Nadal — the pair sat crying, side by side, when it ended — Federer was back on the sideline Saturday, offering coaching tips during a victory by his Team Europe fill-in for singles, Matteo Berrettini, and chatting with Novak Djokovic during his first match in months.

"Having the chance to live what we lived yesterday is something that's going to be stuck in my heart and my brain forever. I'm not lying when I say that I'm here because of him. Like, he was really the one that I was looking up to," said Berrettini, a 26-year-old from Italy who was the runner-up to Djokovic at Wimbledon in 2021.

"If, a few years ago," Berrettini said, "someone told me, 'Look, you're going to play Laver Cup, and Roger's going to coach you,' I would have

been, like, 'Yeah, right.'"

Federer is unsure of his exact plans for the future, but he did vow to remain a part of the sport, saying, "I won't be a ghost."

So how did Federer advise Berrettini as he was on the way to edging Team World's Felix Auger-Aliassime 7-6 (11), 4-6, 10-7?

"Roger told me to hit my forehand decisively ... with more weight," Berrettini said. "And to go down the line every so often with my backhand."

Berrettini's win in the opening match on Day 2 of the three-day team event founded by Federer's management company was followed by Team World's Taylor Fritz beating Cam Norrie 6-1, 4-6, 10-8. Then came a 6-1, 6-3 win for Djokovic against Frances Tiafoe. And Djokovic and Berrettini paired up to close the evening with a 7-5, 6-2 doubles victory over Jack Sock and Alex de Minaur to give Team Europe an 8-4 lead heading into Sunday. The first squad to 13 points will win.

Djokovic paid tribute to Federer in both of his post-

match interviews — jokingly asking the crowd at one point if they'd like to see the Swiss star play again — and called Friday's last hurrah "one of the most beautiful moments I've ever experienced in my life, for sure."

Djokovic, who hadn't competed since winning his 21st major trophy at Wimbledon in July, accumulated 19 winners and just six unforced errors in what he described as a "pretty decent match" against Tiafoe.

The seats were less packed and the atmosphere was more subdued than the previous evening.

"It was just one of those things: You never really think he's actually going to retire. So I think kind of the realization hitting everybody, like, 'This is it' ... was super emotional," Fritz, a 24-year-old Californian, said about Federer, who is 41. "See him crying. Hugged him. I said, 'Thank you. Thanks, Roger. Thanks for everything.' That got me going. Yeah, it was pretty tough to not be crying."

Norrie also got help Saturday from Federer, who suggested trying to serve-and-

volley on one particular point. Alas, while Norrie said it should have worked, it didn't, because he flubbed the volley.

"If Roger Federer's telling you to do something," Norrie said, "there's no way I'm not going to do it."

Djokovic was in Berrettini's ear earlier.

"Novak gave me very useful advice on the return," Berrettini explained. "He told me to move back a little, because at that moment, (Auger-Aliassime) was hitting serves that were bouncing high, so I was a little uncomfortable."

Like Federer, Nadal withdrew from the Laver Cup following their doubles loss to the team of Tiafoe and Sock. Nadal's wife is supposed to give birth to their first child soon, so Norrie stepped in as a replacement.

Nadal, who holds the men's record of 22 major titles, has been dealing with injuries all season, including a torn abdominal muscle, but did not want to miss Federer's final match.

"For me, it was important," Nadal said, "because I knew it was important to him."

Splash Brothers Stephen Curry, Klay Thompson ready to repeat

SAN FRANCISCO (AP)—Stephen Curry's bright-colored "Sour Patch" sneakers squeaked loudly announcing his media day arrival. He then took his spot, tucked in that iconic No. 30 jersey and posed with all of his championship hardware.

A trophy on either side of him, his elbows propped on the other two.

The two-time MVP is showing that his swagger is as strong as ever heading into his 14th NBA season.

"That championship glow is real," Curry said with a smile.

The Golden State star and reigning NBA Finals MVP will turn 35 this season and is still at the top of his game, ready to lead another championship run as the Warriors seek to repeat.

He certainly doesn't take any of this success for granted, knowing how hard it is each season to get back to the top — even when Bucks superstar Giannis Antetokounmpo calls him "the best player in the world."

"And embracing it. My 14th year. I feel fresh and



Golden State Warriors guard Stephen Curry poses for a photograph during an NBA basketball media day in San Francisco, Sunday, Sept. 25, 2022.

prime, ready to go," Curry said Sunday. "I feel like in my head still getting bet-

ter, trying to feed off that. Understand it's a long journey and we are doing some

defensive strategy and stuff like that yesterday, and it kind of felt for a second we were still preparing for the Celtics and the finals series because it didn't feel like that long ago."

Except for the fact this season he will have Splash Brother Klay Thompson alongside him from the opening tip for the defending NBA champions, who depart the Bay Area on Tuesday for Tokyo to face the Washington Wizards in a pair of preseason games Friday and Saturday in Saitama, Japan.

Thompson returned Jan. 9 from an absence of more than 2 1/2 years following a pair of devastating injuries. The 32-year-old Thompson hadn't played since suffering a torn ACL in his left knee in Game 6 of the 2019 NBA Finals as Toronto clinched the championship. While rehabbing from surgery for that injury, he tore his right Achilles tendon scrimmaging on his own in November 2020.

"I'm hungry as ever still because I still remember those two years I had to watch. I'm eager to play a full season and show people what I'm capable of again," Thompson said. Curry cherished another shorter offseason in which a highlight was going back to Davidson College to celebrate his graduation and coach Bob McKillop's retirement after a 33-year career at the school.

"Obviously you enjoy the offseason and know all the work you've put in over the course of your career and especially the last three years," Curry said. "To get back there was meaningful, and you embrace it and appreciate it. Appreciate the vibe you've built with the new-look team built on the core, the guys that have been around the block."

"Very excited about what it means coming into this season trying to defend, knowing there will be new challenges for everybody as a team and everybody individually."

Draymond Green warned of the "championship hangover" and how he will strive to keep Golden State from

becoming complacent.

One big key in that effort: Veteran swingman Andre Iguodala, 38, is expected to sign and arrive Monday ahead of the trip.

"We are all so proud of what we accomplished last year, but that's in the past," Thompson said. "The greats stay hungry, and we all have our motivations for why we want to win another one."

Both Jordan Poole and Andrew Wiggins said they haven't spent added energy worrying about their unsettled contract situations.

"I really haven't been paying attention too often," Poole said of landing an extension.

Green, who along with Curry, Iguodala and Thompson are the core and have been around for each of the finals runs dating to the 2015 championship, doesn't expect to secure a new deal himself before the season.

"I don't think it will happen," he said. "And so for me, I'm just focused on this season and being as great as I can be, I know I'm capable of being, and winning another championship and reaching my individual goals."

Big man Kevon Looney hopes to play all 82 games again after becoming one of just five to do so last season — if the training staff approves, of course.

"That's the goal," he said. "As long as I feel good, make it happen."

When told of Looney's goal, Thompson could only ponder that in amazement.

"Does he, back-to-back?," Thompson said. "Crazy."

Celtics' Williams out 8-12 weeks after latest knee surgery

BOSTON (AP)—Celtics center Robert Williams III is expected to miss at least two months after undergoing surgery Friday on the left knee that caused him to miss time during Boston's NBA Finals run last season.

The team said the arthroscopic procedure to remove loose bodies and address swelling was a success. He is expected to resume basketball activities in 8-12 weeks.

Williams had surgery in March to repair torn cartilage in the same knee. He missed seven playoff games while rehabbing from that procedure, and after experiencing soreness in the knee and later sustaining a bone bruise.

The fifth-year big man and defensive stalwart averaged a career-high 10 points and 9.6 rebounds last season. But those numbers dipped to 7.6 points 6.2 rebounds during the playoffs.



Boston Celtics center Robert Williams III (44) waits for play to resume during the first half of Game 1 of an NBA basketball Eastern Conference finals playoff series against the Miami Heat, Tuesday, May 17, 2022, in Miami.

Forward Danilo Gallinari also had surgery on Friday. Gallinari, who signed as a free agent in July, tore the anterior cruciate ligament in his left knee while playing for Italy during a FIBA World Cup qualifier against Georgia.

Gallinari tore the same ligament in 2013. The Celtics didn't provide a timeline for his return. But such injuries typically involve a recovery process of up to a year, meaning it would be unlikely for the veteran to play this season.

KOSEBAKL

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waste her home run as they put in seven more runs in the next inning, while their pitcher continued to shut down the Babes, allowing only three runs in two innings for a big lead of 12-4.

Although, it wasn't over for the Babes as they had a last-ditch effort to score more runs in the fourth inning. Seven out of their 10 batters in that

inning scored a run to catch up with Kosebaki, 12-11.

The Babes' rally was short-lived as Kosebaki Ladies' offense lit up in the final inning to secure eight more runs. The Babes were not able to retaliate as they could not get past the Kosebaki Ladies pitcher for a final score of 21-11.

Maiyah Duenas and Mina Kelly each brought three runners home, and along with Kladiem, Hayo Henley, Sonia Isaac, and Mardina Kaipat had two RBIs each for Kose-

baki Ladies. Angela Muna, Jennie Scaliem, Vine Ngrablosch, Mona Camacho, and Keyona Tudela had one RBI each. Mardina Kaipat collected three doubles, while Maiyah Duenas and Kayla Kaipat had one each.

For the 670 Babes, Pauline Camacho had three RBIs and Catelyn Dela Cruz had two.

With the win, Kosebaki Ladies leveled its win-loss record to 4-4 in the standings, while 670 Babes went lower in the standings at 2-5.

TEAM

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runs in three innings, and behind one run, 6-7, with Asahi in the lead for now.

The game started to roll again for Sufa in the last inning as the bats went popping off for the top of the lineup with home runs once again from Salalila and Dickinson collecting one more each, and Mel Tenorio hitting one of his own.

Jun Salalila and Audie

Maratita brought two more runs in for their team score of 12. Asahi could not come up with any more runs as they fell to Sufa, 12-7.

Sufa is now up in the standings at 7-4, while Asahi dropped to 5-4.

Momma Charo 30, Salty Boys 19

Momma Charo showed no mercy against the Salty Boys as they destroyed them, 30-19.

Momma Charo's record

went up to 5-6, while the Salty Boys have yet to see a win this season as they are in the bottom of the standings at 0-12.

Despite having a large number of runs, only three home runs were made by Momma Charo batters. J.J. Laniyo, Benji Tagabuel, and Bernard Kileman collected the bulk of the RBIs with five each. Laniyo almost completed the cycle in this game as he went 4-6 at the plate, with one double, one triple, and one home run.

For the Salty Boys, Mike Techur tried as he might to carry his team to their first win, but fell short. In his effort, he hit an impressive four home runs out of five at-bats, went 5-for-5, and brought in nearly half of the team's runs with eight RBIs.

Tokahao 24, Hagu La'mun 23

In a close game that had spectators and both teams on the edge of their seats, Tokahao managed to outlast Hagu La'mun by one run to win, 24-23.

Tokahao and Hagu La'mun took turns putting up runs on the board, with each inning ending in ties or either team with a small lead.

Toward the end in the last inning, Hagu La'mun was unable to score a run, but Tokahao managed to score in two runs with a two-run home run made by Manny Villagomez to win, 24-23.

Tokahao is now at 8-3, while Hagu La'mun fell to 6-5 in the standings.

SPC

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race as it will be its first time back after the pandemic."

The Micronesia Cup Outrigger Race is hosted annually which is rotated among the CNMI, Palau, and Guam.

The races were canceled for the past two years due to the COVID-19 pandemic and the last time it was held was 2019 in Palau.



Dolphins stuff Bills,
Allen late, hold on
for 21-19 win

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Saipan Tribune Sports

Splash Brothers
Stephen Curry,
Klay Thompson
ready to repeat

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20 TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 2022

SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Kosebaki Ladies overpower 670 Babes



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Kosebaki Ladies
huddle up to cheer
their win over 670
Babes last Sunday
in the women's
division game of
the Budweiser Belau
Amateur Softball
Association at the
Dandan Softball
Field.

By LEIGH GASES
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CORRESPONDENT

Heather Kladikm set the ball ablaze as she hit the only home run of the women's division so far in Kosebaki Ladies' win over the 670 Babes, 21-11, in the lone women's division game of the 2022 Budweiser Belau Amateur Softball Association League last Sunday at the Dandan Softball Field.

With the day off to a rainy start, the morning games of the day were postponed, but despite a gloomy and wet field, Kosebaki Ladies played with fire in their veins.

Kladikm's home run came after a quiet first inning for

Kosebaki Ladies, leading her team to 5-1 lead against the Babes. Kladikm went for two hits out of three at-bats and had two RBIs.

Her team helped put in the work and did not
See KOSEBAKL on Page 19



By LEIGH GASES
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Sufa continued their dominance in the field as they defeated Asahi, 12-7 in the men's division of the 2022 Budweiser Belau Amateur Softball Association League last Sunday at the Dandan Softball Field.

Only three men's division games were played due to the cancellation of the morning games.

Sufa drew first blood as Paul Salalila and Jude Dickinson rounded the bases for two runs in the scoreboard.

Asahi struck back and put up four runs right after, scoring in Hector Efraim and Darwin Masaharu, and a home run each from Domi-

Team Sufa continues winning ways

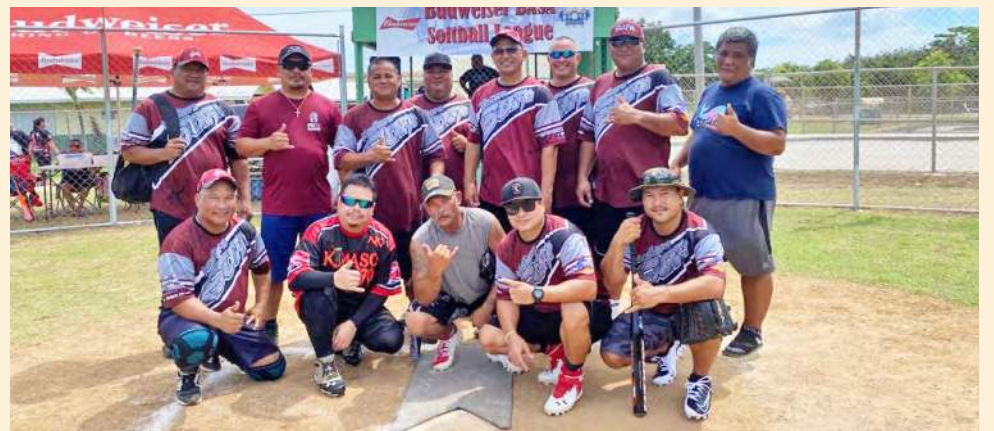
nic Hideo and Edgar Ito.

From then on, Asahi was unable to score against Sufa, coming up with goose eggs in

the second and third inning, and putting up only three additional runs in the fourth and fifth inning.

Sufa batters didn't have much contact with the ball either, as they only put up three

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Team Sufa poses for a photo in this file photo from a previous game in the men's division of the 2022 Budweiser Belau Amateur Softball Association League at the Dandan Softball Field.

LEIGH GASES



Participants are seen making their way through one of Run Saipan's many races around the island.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

SPC to host 5K Run Glow Edition on Oct. 5

By LEIGH GASES
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CORRESPONDENT

The Saipan Paddling Club will host its 3rd Annual 5K Run Glow Edition on Oct. 5 at 6pm starting from the Garapan Fishing Base.

The registration fee is \$11 which will include glow rings. Event T-shirts will be available for purchase at \$10.

You can register for the event at this link: <https://raceroster.com/events/2022/64763/spc->

glow-run-5k.

"Continuing Saipan Paddling Club's Healthy lifestyle program besides outrigger paddling, this 5K run is another way to get our island folks out to exercise while having fun... We wanted to do something not normally done so this is what we came up with—it will be done after the sun sets so the glow materials will really come out," said Saipan Paddling Club president and

head coach Justin Andrew.

"We encourage everyone to come out and just have a wonderful time. It's not a competition so there is really no pressure for those who take part—we just want to have fun and burn calories and stay healthy," the veteran paddler added.

Andrew said the Saipan Paddling Club thanks everyone who is helping make this a fun event.

"Huge shoutout to Edward Dela Cruz Jr. of Run Saipan for his advice and guidance as well as our friends and families who encourage and support our club to keep doing these healthy living activities."

Proceeds from the event will help send the youth and young adult outrigger paddlers to Palau to take part in the Micronesia Cup Outrigger Races to be held next month from Oct. 20 to 23.

Andrew said that they "are very excited for this year's

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